

*Femmes d'Esprit*

## Honors Program



1974

*Years of Excellence*

2001

*Alumnae Issue*

# Editor's Note...

# Who We Are...

Dear Readers:

Here it is--again! The Honors Program of The College of New Rochelle is most proud to present to you our second Alumnae Issue of *Femmes d'Esprit*.

As a 2001 graduate, reading the stories from the incredible women who have passed through the Honors Program at CNR was inspiring. Included in this issue are words from alumnae of the first Honors class to the Class of 2000. And not to leave out the women have yet to become alumnae, a special thanks goes out to the young women who worked on this issue with me, who will be graduating either in December of this year or in 2004 (the 100th Anniversary year of the College!).

I invite you to peruse the many different stories this issue offers. From class updates to articles about life after CNR, this Alumnae Issue is jam-packed with info you will find interesting, fun and useful.

In addition, I encourage you to glance at the back page where you will find a website sample of how the Honors Alumnae Directory page appears. We hope it will make you curious to explore the SAS Honors Program webpage when you get time in your busy lives. When you are ready to update or edit your bio information, do it on-line and e-mail it to the Honors Webpage Committee.

As I begin my post-college life journey, I feel confident that my path will be like that of my Honors sisters who have gone before me--full of challenges and opportunities that I will have to choose from, and that will lead me to continue to become the woman that I am.



Mary Job,  
Class of 2001

## Alumnae Issue 2001 Staff

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### Assistant

Vera Chernysheva, '01

### Writers

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Kathleen Cravero, '76

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Teresa Feil, '86

Dr. Katherine Henderson

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### Publisher

CNR Print Shop

**Speak out...**

**Be active...**

**Talk to us...**

**Write to us...**

**E-mail us...**

*Femmes d'Esprit* Newsletter  
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Alumnae College, June 8-10, 2001

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### Class of 1976

Nilda Bayron  
Kathleen Cravero  
Genellen McGrath  
Michele McMahon  
Teri Rosen  
Lorrayne Yen

### Class of 1981

Mary Ellen Colangelo  
Elizabeth Donnolo  
Colleen Duffy  
Allison McMillan  
Deidre O'Sullivan

### Class of 1986

Karen Bruder  
Diane Ceruzzi  
Gina D'Aprile  
Kathleen Davis  
Teresa Feil  
Grace Gannon  
Catherine Goulet  
Elizabeth Morgan  
Elizabeth Murphy  
Kathy Robinson

### Class of 1991

Stacy Begin  
Heidi Clay  
Samira D'Souza  
Laura Hilton  
Jody Ouellette  
Lourdes Pichardo  
Eileen Songer

### Class of 1996

Aileen Apat  
Stephanie Bell  
Wen Chen  
Jennifer Cianciolo  
Jennifer Coursen  
Eleanor Fallon  
Jacqueline Maxwell  
Jeannine Nault  
Maryanne Picone  
Irma Rivera  
Lilian Roidrigues  
Katherine Williams

### Class of 2000

Shakuntala Balram  
Erin Carmichael  
Michelle Echavarria  
Andrea Hindmarsh  
Jennifer Horbal  
Amadika Hospedales  
Dayanara Hudson  
Griselda Kim  
Kelly Anne Larkin  
Theresa Llewellyn  
Jaclyn Martinez  
Dawn Phillips  
Renuka Rajani  
Gloria Romero  
Noela Taban  
Monika Wargo

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# Letter from the Director

Dear Honors Alumnae:

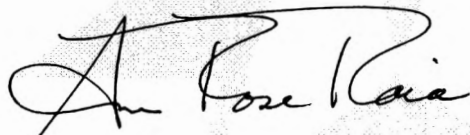
I am privileged to greet you in this second issue of *Alum Femmes*, on the occasion of The College of New Rochelle's Alumnae/i College and the 25th Reunion of the Class of 1976, the Honors Program's first graduating class. With the kind of generous and insightful response so many of you have shown to requests for articles and updates, *Alum Femmes* can indeed be issued annually at Alumnae/i College--if I can find another editor like Mary Job, who so graciously gave up her few precious days between finals and graduation to layout and edit this issue.

All of you who have contributed to this issue have demonstrated yet again your commitment to the shared values that distinguish CNR and your Honors Program. These days we are all busy, but you took the time to reflect and write something significant to you and meaningful for your Honors colleagues, most of whom are unknown to you. I am grateful to Point Park College President Katherine Henderson, co-founder of the Honors Program, who opens this issue with her reminiscences of the conception of the Honors Program. Since many of you were unable to attend the special Academic Convocation with which the College so elegantly celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the Honors Program, the glowing tributes by the President and the Academic Vice President are printed within for you to delight in, as well as the poems that Fr. Bernie selected to read.

This issue contains essays by members of our reunifying classes (and then some). The lead article, "Challenges and Choices," is written by Kathleen Cravero, who graduated with the Honors Diploma 25 years ago and has achieved distinction for her global advocacy of health for the world's poor and under-represented, especially women and children. She brings to bear both intelligence and passion on her career commitment to secure the well-being of others, to lead with courage and conviction, and to respect human community--themes that you will find echoed in various ways in both the essays and the individual profiles that follow.

Just as a swimmer heading for shore needs to look up occasionally to check her landmarks and correct the course from which she has been pulled by the current, so do we in higher education, pulled by outside forces, look to you, our graduates, for confirmation that we are effectively communicating the values we espouse. Your cards and letters, phone calls and e-mails, which tell us where you--and your classmates--are mentally and geographically, hearten us; your example nourishes us. Keep communicating!

With pride in you and sincere gratitude,



Dr. Ann Raia,  
Director



www.cnr.edu/honors

# 25th ANNIVERSARY

## Academic Convocation

The College of New Rochelle  
Holy Family Chapel  
Wednesday, November 29, 2000  
5:00 p.m.

### Program

#### ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Richard D. Cassetta  
*Grand Marshal*

#### PROCESSIONAL

#### CONVOCATION

Joan E. Bailey  
*Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs*

#### INVOCATION

Mary Naughton  
*Director of Campus Ministry*

#### THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

#### GREETINGS

Stephen J. Sweeny  
*President*

#### IN TRIBUTE TO THE HONORS PROGRAM

Joan E. Bailey

#### READINGS

Rev. Bernard McMahon  
*Emeritus Professor of English*

#### INTRODUCTION

Stephen J. Sweeny

#### REFLECTION

Ellen V. Futter  
*President, American Museum of Natural History  
New York*

#### MUSICAL INTERLUDE

#### CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREE

#### BENEDICTION

Rev. Jack Rathschmidt, O.F.M. Cap.  
*Chaplain*

## Biography: Ellen V. Futter

Ellen V. Futter is President of the American Museum of Natural History. She previously served as President of Barnard College for thirteen years.

Ms. Futter was graduated Phi Beta Kappa, *magna cum laude*, from Barnard in 1971. She was elected to the Board of Trustees of Barnard as a student representative and was subsequently elected to full membership to complete the term of Arthur Goldberg, former Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court. Ms. Futter earned her Juris Doctor degree from Columbia Law School in 1974. She began her career as an associate at the Wall Street firm of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy where she practiced corporate law. In 1980, Ms. Futter took a leave of absence from Milbank, Tweed to serve as Barnard's Acting President for one year. At the end of that period, she was appointed President of the College.

Ms. Futter has a strong record of public service. She currently serves as director or member of the boards of a number of organizations including American International Group, Inc; Bristol-Myers Squibb Company; Consolidated Edison, Inc.; J.P. Morgan & Co. Incorporated; New York City Partnership; NYC & Company; and the American Ditchley Foundation, as well as on the board of the American Museum of Natural History. In addition, she has served as chair of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Ms. Futter is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Helsinki Watch, the Advisory Board of the Yale School of Management, the National Institute of Social Sciences, and the Academy of American Poets, as well as of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York and the New York State and American Bar Associations.

Ms. Futter is widely recognized as a dynamic voice for higher education and is an active supporter of women's issues. She has been awarded numerous honorary degrees, and is the recipient of the National Institute of Social Science's Gold Medal Award and the National Organization of Women's Eleanor Roosevelt Leadership Award.

# CELEBRATION

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## President's Address

*President Stephen J. Sweeny*

I am pleased to greet you in the name of the Chair of the Board of Trustees, Sister Jean Baptiste Nicholson, the member of the Board of Trustees, and on behalf of the entire College community as we gather to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Honors Program of the School of Arts and Sciences. Greetings to the Vice Presidents and Deans, to the faculty and staff, and a particular warm welcome home to alumnae, especially the alumnae of the Honors Program. I am delighted both as President and on a personal level to greet Dr. Ann Raia, founder of the Honors Program, its director for more than 25 years. The celebration of the Honors Program is in reality a celebration of Ann Raia. Greetings, too, to Sister Ann Bunting, member of that first Honors Board in 1974 who brought the Program to life.

We chose to celebrate the remarkable achievements of the Honors Program in an academic convocation--an age-old, revered instrument of higher education to express our deepest values and beliefs. And we chose to profess again these profound values by associating ourselves through this convocation and the conferral of an honorary degree with someone who represents our values, beliefs, commitments to an extraordinary degree.

Greetings to Dr. Ellen Futter whose lifetime of leadership and achievement in prestigious institutions of education and culture represent both the excellence and education for service which are so dear to us as College. We look forward to reflecting on these achievements later in our convocation.

The Honors Program is expressly designed to provide an alternative mode of education within the structure of the liberal arts curriculum. While the target audience of the Honors Program is the motivated academic achiever, regardless of her area of concentration, the Honors Program affects the wider audience for the School through innovative curriculum, experimental teaching methods, rotating faculty, and co-curricular programming.

The Program seeks to foster in Honors students:

- high academic and scholarly achievement
- excellence in intellectual, writing, and speaking skills
- personal independence and initiative in pursuing intellectual goals
- leadership abilities through individual and collaborative involvement in community

The Program offers Honors students challenging opportunities for:

- independent study and research through Honors contract work
- interdisciplinary learning through Honors seminars, the Colloquium and Senior Symposium
- field experience through academic internships
- leadership through participation on the Honors Board, Honors committees, and social and co-curricular activities
- access to National Collegiate Honors Council Semesters and conferences

In the past students have attended The Washington Bicentennial Semester, The United Nations Semester, The Appalachia Culture Semester, The Mexico Semester, and The New York City Honors Semester, which was co-sponsored by and located at The College of New Rochelle in the Fall of 1996.

Let me say it very simply: the truth is, I think, we have a great deal to be proud of in the Honors Program. The College has been changed for the better because of the innovative thinking of twenty-five years ago. All students and faculty have felt the benefit of the Program. It encourages interdisciplinary thinking with independent study. Collaborative learning is able to take place among faculty and students that otherwise would not. It enables depth of explorations and is very impressive. I speak for the entire College community by saying that I am very proud of the Honors Program.

Dr. Ann Raia is one of the most outstanding citizens at the College. She is energetic, full of vitality and good cheer and is highly creative. She represents the best of the teaching profession. I am very proud of Dr. Raia and thank her for her accomplishments. She will say she does everything with a team, but we all know who is the key on that team. She is wonderful!

After twenty-five years we can look back and say, isn't this a wonderful program? Hasn't she been good for the Honors Program? Hasn't the Honors Program been good for all of us?

With so much to celebrate, we gather in academic convocation. Greetings to all. The values we celebrate today are the university and this College at their best. And as we have said on other occasions --perhaps not nearly enough--"there are few earthly things more beautiful."

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# 25th ANNIVERSARY

## In Tribute To The Honors Program

*Dr. Joan E. Bailey*

Today's celebration is the celebration of extra-ordinary achievement--the extra-ordinary achievements of women. In particular, the academic achievement of the students and graduates of the past twenty-five years who have demonstrated academic excellence and leadership beyond the ordinary in their participation in the Honors Program of the School of Arts and Sciences of The College of New Rochelle. Using the free exchange of perspectives, insights, and methodologies of the liberal arts, students and faculty have engaged one another in developing the skills and habits of mind that we recognize as hallmarks of leadership and academic excellence.

You have shown us and yourselves a level of academic excellence above and beyond the usual demands of academic success. We mark these 25 years by especially honoring one woman of extraordinary leadership who now heads one of the world's greatest museums. This appropriately celebrates the academic excellence central to the Mission of The College of New Rochelle. Not content to simply be an Honors Program that emphasizes individual academic excellence, the special nature of our Honors Program relies on each member challenging herself to contribute her best in each of the myriad dimensions of her whole self: her spiritual, moral, aesthetic, social, and yes, her intellectual self.

In doing this, each participant--student and faculty alike--challenges and calls forth this excellence in others. This celebration, this engagement in the mutual pursuit of excellence is quite personal--the Honors Program is each student choosing to challenge herself beyond the usual academic demands.

Consistent with women's ways of knowing, it is also collaborative and communal--in the shared membership, each member is better than she could be alone.

Perhaps the most outstanding characteristic of our Honors Program is the role that students play in its design. It truly belongs to the students. To be a member is to be a leader, a con-



Dr. Ann Raia, Honors Alum Marguerite D'Aprile ('80), and Dr. John Colaneri on Convocation day.

tributor, a creator, designer, and owner. In short, to be a member is to be active.

Twenty-five years of discovery--self-discovery--twenty-five years of experiencing the joy of new ideas, new perspectives, new insights, and most of all, the joy of discovering that each challenge creates new possibilities for further growth.

This community of women, this whole which has been and continues to be so much greater than the sum of its individual members, is the occasion of our joy and celebration today.

Congratulations are in order to all of you who have given and gained from this unique collaboration. The College of New Rochelle is enriched by you and by this program.

# CELEBRATION

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## Honors From Fr. Bernard McMahon

"The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science.' These words, inscribed on the wall at the entrance to the Aviation and Space Museum at Albuquerque, New Mexico, express, I believe, the spirit that infuses our gathering today as we celebrate the manifold achievements of Dr. Ellen Futter and the silver anniversary of the Honors Program at the College.

Three poems, W.H. Auden's *The Maze* (page 31), Adrienne Rich's *Planetarium*, and W.B. Yeats' *Sailing to Byzantium* (page 18), express, in various ways, Einstein's belief that the mysterious is the source of art and science: Auden reflects on the mystery of paradox; Rich on the mystery of the universe; Yeats on the mystery of the soul. The reading then of these poems is a tribute to Dr. Futter and the students of the Honors Program, past and present, who know the most beautiful thing they can experience is the mysterious."



photo by Ann Rula

Past and Present: Honors Alum Kelly Larkin ('00) and Freshwoman Richelle Fiore after the Convocation ceremony.

## Planetarium

Adrienne Rich

A woman in the shape of a monster  
a monster in the shape of a woman  
the skies are full of them

a woman "in the snow  
among the Clocks and instruments  
or measuring the ground with poles"

in her 98 years to discover  
8 comets  
she whom the moon ruled  
like us  
levitating into the night sky  
riding the polished lenses

Galaxies of women, there  
doing penance for impetuosity  
ribs chilled  
in those spaces of the mind

An eye,  
"virile, precise and absolutely certain"  
from the mad webs of Uranisborg  
encountering the NOVA

every impulse of light exploding  
from the core  
as life flies out of us

Tycho whispering at last  
"Let me not seem to have lived in vain"

What we see, we see  
and seeing is changing

the light that shrivels a mountain  
and leaves a man alive

Heartbeat of the pulsar  
heart sweating through my body

The radio impulse  
pouring in from Taurus  
I am bombarded yet I stand

I have been stading all my life in the  
direct path of a battery of signals  
the most accurately transmitted most  
untranslatable language in the universe  
I am a galactic cloud so deep so involuted  
that a light wave could take 15 years to travel through me And has  
takend I am an instrument in the shape  
of a woman trying to translate pulsations  
into images for the relief of the body  
and the reconstruction of the mind.

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## 25 Years Later: Challenges and Choices

Kathleen Cravero, '76

I remember my first Honors project very clearly. It was an independent study--the task was to choose 7-10 books on modern feminism, analyse their content and comment on their significance. It was a heady project. Almost as good as my second Honors project, which was to attend the United Nations Commission on Social Development and report on its conclusions. That was the start of over two decades of service to the United Nations.

While obviously different, these two assignments had three common elements:

- confidence was shown in my good judgment -to choose the right book, to attend the right meeting, to make the most of unique opportunities;
- value was placed on what I thought--about feminism, social development and their larger implications; and
- expectations were made clear, *i.e.*, that the confidence placed in my abilities would lead to a quality product. I felt a responsibility to produce what was agreed upon, on time and to the best of my ability.

These three factors, over time and through various assignments, had a profound effect on my own self-confidence. Even after 20 years of international work, often in extremely difficult circumstances, I approach new challenges with relative optimism, assuming that, through hard work and determination, I (and/or my team) can rise to the occasion.

And so, when invited to reflect on how my experience with the Honors Program has affected my life and work, I felt at a loss for words. The Honors Program, which first began shortly after I arrived at CNR, broadened my horizons and fundamentally shaped my world view. It was one of those turning points, the significance of which reveals itself slowly but surely over the course of time.

For almost two decades I have had the privilege of serving the United Nations. While remain-

ing a staff member of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), I have worked for four UN organizations: UNICEF, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and, currently, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). Half of that period has been spent in Africa (Chad, Uganda and Burundi) and the other half working at a global level, in New York or Geneva. Altogether I have lived, led missions or had short-term assignments in 35 countries.

The bulk of these years has been devoted to what is known as "development" work. Put simply, this means helping people, communities--and governments--help themselves. The goal is to assist people to analyse problems, devise solutions and take action to improve their lives. I have learned much from this process. Most importantly,

I have seen first-hand the resilience of poor communities. People with scarce resources tend to use them wisely; they carefully weigh all options before choosing

among them. Families under stress survive through cooperation; people in desperate circumstances waste no time on self pity--they use whatever they have to move forward, however incremental the steps. I now listen to people more carefully. I no longer assume that I know more than they do about their daily struggles.

An example from Uganda illustrates the point. I served as UNICEF Representative in Uganda just as the country began to feel the full force of the AIDS epidemic. No aspect of social or economic development was spared; systems, services and entire communities were cracking under the strain. One of the programs supported by UNICEF sought to reduce "risk behaviour" among young girls in poor urban communities. These girls were increasingly engaging in relationships with older men. As the HIV infection rate among these men was high (and the use of condoms low), their "girl-friends" were also at risk. We initiated special information sessions for these girls--providing counselling and materials on the causes of HIV infection and on effective prevention techniques.

**"The Honors Program...broadened my horizons and fundamentally shaped my world view."**

cont'd on page 39

## What I Have Learned...

by R. Jessup

I've learned--  
that you can do something in an instant  
that will give you heartache for life.

I've learned--  
that it's taking me a long time  
to become the person I want to be.

I've learned--  
that you can keep going  
long after you can't.

I've learned--  
that we are responsible for what we do,  
no matter how we feel.

I've learned--  
That either you control your attitude  
or it controls you.

I've learned--  
That heroes are the people  
who do what has to be done  
when it needs to be done,  
regardless of the consequences.

I've learned--  
That money is a lousy way of keeping score.

I've learned--  
That credentials on the wall  
do not make you a decent human being.

I've learned--  
That my best friend and I can do anything  
or nothing and have the best time.

I've learned--  
That sometimes the people you expect  
to kick you when you're down  
will be the ones to help you back up.

I've learned--  
That sometimes when I'm angry  
I have the right to be angry,  
but that doesn't give me the right to be cruel.

I've learned--  
That true friendship continues to grow,  
even over the longest distance.

I've learned--  
That maturity has more to do with  
what types of experiences you've had  
and what you've learned from them,  
and less to do with how many  
birthdays you've celebrated.

I've learned--  
That no matter how good a friend is,  
they're going to hurt you every  
once in a while and you must forgive  
them for that.

I've learned--  
That it isn't always enough to be  
forgiven by others. Sometimes you  
have to forgive yourself.

I've learned--  
That our background and circumstances  
may have influenced who we are,  
but we are responsible for who we become.

I've learned--  
That we don't have to change friends  
if we understand that friends change.

I've learned--  
That two people can look at the exact  
same thing and see something totally  
different.

I've learned--  
That even when you think you have no more  
to give, when a friend cries out to you,  
you will find the strength to help.

# A Year Later: Now It's Time to Grow Up and Face The Real World

Jennifer Horbal, '00

Did you read the title of this article? Go back. Read it again. You might think that I am a poor title writer (which I am) so I had to steal an overused quotation. However, I chose this title because it was one of several overused quotations that I based my Hooding Speech on, last May. I can not believe a year has gone by already....

When I wrote that speech, I thought that its purpose above all else would be reflective. One of the best skills that CNR helped me hone was my ability to investigate and interrogate all that I encountered. I wanted my speech to be a reflection of that. I figured if I could make my classmates of 2000 reflect on phrases and quotations that they had heard overused again and again in their lives, they would be better able to appreciate them. Did it work? I hope so.

But now, a year later, I have come full circle. Now I reread those overused sayings, especially the one I have chosen as the title of this piece, and I say to myself, "This is the real world? I am glad it didn't start any earlier."

Do not get me wrong, my life until the age of 22 had many trials. However, the trials of this "real world" are vastly different. I was lucky enough to begin my career this past September as a middle school teacher, which has always been my dream. While I have learned a valuable lesson every single day, I have also learned that no class or professor could ever prepare me for the student who asks, "Why?" constantly. No college degree could ever help me convince a child with Attention Deficit Disorder that he has to listen when someone else is speaking. No Honors Program experience could ever help me talk to a parent who does not care about her/his child.

This is my Real World.

My real world now focuses on the needs and whims of 135 ten to fourteen year-olds. When they get an 'A', I am overjoyed with them. When they participate in the track meet, I am tired with them. When they are bullied, I cry with them. And when they fear for their lives (which is an all too common experience in schools today), I worry with them. Who knew that "the real world" would be so

much larger than the world that I thought I was creating for myself. Who knew that "the real world" would be a tiresome roller coaster ride of emotion that never seems to end?

Am I complaining? To some degree. Do I mean to? Yes. Those that read this as undergraduates need to understand that while the real world is at their fingertips, the real world can also make your fingers and your heart ache. For those reading this as CNR alum, it can serve as a reminder of how meaningful and precious each encounter is that they have in their everyday routine.

I think that a recent college graduate stands out for several reasons. One of them is because of her fresh outlook on the world. The other is because of the utter disbelief she has when she gets out there and *experiences* life.

That is why I write. I need to tell others that "the real world" is grueling, it is demanding, and it is tiring. But above all else, even at its most dangerous turns, this real world, this roller coaster ride of emotion, is a blessing.

Maybe it's because of my faith. Maybe it's because I teach. Or maybe it's because I went to The College of New

Rochelle. But even after experiencing a year of "the real world," I still believe one person can make a difference. I still believe that "the real world" can be made better. I still believe that I can make a difference.

Yes, there have been times when, as I said in my Hooding Speech last year, "I bit off more than I could chew," but even during those times, I have accomplished, eventually, the goal that I set out to accomplish. I had hope in my goals and my dreams and I did not let the obstacles of "the real world" get in my way. That is what makes "the real world" so real--the hope that we put into it. Because without hope, there really is nothing.

Thus, I pass my hope along to others. I hope that your real worlds are as rewarding and challenging as mine has turned out to be. Because without a challenge, "the real world" would just be boring.

So, I encourage you seniors to get out there and face it and enjoy it!



photo by Ann Rala

## A Year Later: Continuing Independent Learning

Michelle Echevarria, '00

In the months before graduation, I remember everyone was scurrying around, calling up old contacts and sending out as many resumes as their work-study budget could muster. I was also worried about what I would be doing after graduation, and I had applied for an internship program that placed students in top advertising agencies anywhere in the country. Thankfully, I was accepted and was on my way to a Boston agency, Arnold Communications, shortly after graduation.

During my summer internship, I created the intranet site for Arnold's Human Resources department, starting pretty much from the ground up. I met with the head of Human Resources about once a week and we discussed how the site should look and what it should contain. I assisted with the information and navigational structure of the site, along with the content management.

In addition, I worked with six other interns on a summer project. Our goal was to think of ways to make the internship program more attractive to college students. I worked on the interactive part of the project, making the site appear similar to Arnold's corporate site. At the end of the summer, the other interns and I presented our market research and ideas to a panel of judges from the company. There were nine other teams competing. Thanks to all of our hard work, we came in second place, a good position considering that we had some tough competition.

Boston was a great place to spend the summer and it was also the first time I was truly on my own. I paid for my own transportation, rent and personal expenses. It was the first time I was given a paycheck for a 5 day-a-week, nine to five job. Having my own funds and not having to ask my parents for financial assistance was a liberating experience. My stay in Boston was short, but filled with important lessons about money management, which I continue to utilize.

When I returned to New York in mid-August, I was on the hunt for a new job. I knew I wanted to concentrate on web design and development for a corporation or start-up company. Finding such a position was, by no means, an easy task. Most companies were looking for applicants with one to two years of experience in the workforce; being fresh out of

college, I did not qualify.

I spent nearly a month and a half looking for a job requiring the qualifications that I had to offer. About half-way through my search, I began some freelance work on a project for a software company in Boston so that I could have spending money. This eased the pressure of having to find a job for the sole purpose of bringing in some sort of income and helped me focus on finding one that I could both enjoy and learn from.

In mid-September, I went for an interview at a start-up company on Long Island that went extremely well; shortly afterwards, I was offered the position I wanted. I was excited, nervous, scared and anxious about starting on my first career. I had so many expectations about what I would learn and what I could accomplish at this company.

One of the most important things I learned was that I have to be able to adapt to change with stealth and agility. There is no company that is going to wait for me to catch up to the latest technology or web language. I have to constantly learn and keep my ear to the pulse of my industry. I have subscribed to several tech magazines, joined new media organizations and attend industry seminars on a regular basis, all in an effort to keep my skills sharp and be prepared for any type of project that comes my way.

The notion of constant learning and enlightenment may sound familiar to some of you former and current Honors students because you have heard it from Dr. Raia and other faculty for your entire academic career. I am fortunate that I listened and was ready to pick up books and learn new things that would advance my education. The Honors Program has taught me that knowledge is anything but stagnant; rather, it is an evolution of the mind that begins with my willingness to learn about new ideas. I plan to continue this evolution in the hope that it will lead to a prosperous career in computer technology.

At the moment I am eagerly looking forward to beginning graduate study in media at The New School in the fall--balancing courses with late-night job projects and a tough commute should be interesting and exciting.



Photo by Ann Raia

# C N R Thinking Outside The Box

Mary Elizabeth Slevin, '77

Life since CNR. What does that mean to any of us? On first reflection, it includes a million and one memories, an equal number of dreams, our share of victories, defeats, joys and disappointments. Further reflection, however, engenders a quantum of gratitude. Gratitude that there existed, at the time we needed it and now as well, a place where learning was served out to us with an exuberance, a passion and a generosity that remains a rarity, in school and out. What a tremendous blessing to have shared such an experience!

I was accepted to the Honors Program in 1974 (yes, I was only twelve at the time and I am only slightly past 30 now) without a clue (all right, 'clueless') as to what the Program was really about or what it had to offer. What I soon found out was that the Program offered us the opportunity to discover the limits of our knowledge, and go beyond them. And it only offered that because there were women and men on the faculty who had a higher vision for education, individuals who were prepared to embark on a journey of learning with their students in an unfamiliar forum with an unfamiliar format. These were people who taught by their own actions, willing to embrace a concept of education which flouted a more conventional wisdom and which instead assumed that learning could be redefined to include new and wonderful opportunities.

For me, personally, thoughts of the Honors Program bring to mind people like Sister Virginia Orna, O.S.U., who was willing to develop a whole new view of science to include within its bounds the art students she found in her midst. Or Dr. Barbara McManus, who also found a way to meld disciplines and reach for a broader understanding of the goals of learning. And of course, Dr. Ann Raia, who for me, then and now, epitomizes the wonder of learning and the love of discovery.

With such inspiration, we have gone out and tried to enlighten the rest of the world (having all the answers at twenty-one), trying to hold onto some of that wonder, some of that challenge (more successfully some times than at others). We do that in a million ways, some as wives, some as mothers, some as teachers, doctors, lawyers, executives, artists, and in many other roles. Whatever it is, what we take with us is this:

**"[The Honors Program] was for me and remains now, a Program that asks us and allows us to be all that we can be."**

that "it" is all possible. These wonderful teachers and leaders have shown us that boundaries are to be examined and challenged, not merely accepted. All disci-

**"I laugh when I go to meetings now and I hear the trite phrase "think outside the box." The Honors Program challenged us to do this long before anyone coined a phrase to describe the concept."**

plines offer opportunity for creative thought and creative endeavor. We have the right and the obligation to challenge ourselves, to question ourselves whenever we hear ourselves say "I can't" or "I don't know how," because those statements do not need to remain true in regard to any matter before us. In fact, we can and we do know how to know.

The Honors Program has offered wonderful courses, programs and seminars over the years which are a further credit to all involved. But more fundamentally, it was for me and remains now, a Program that asks us and allows us to be all that we can be. It challenges us to redefine what we think we can be over time, not to limit our abilities or our impression of our abilities. I laugh when I go to meetings now and I hear the trite phrase "think outside the box." The Honors Program challenged us to do this years before anyone coined a phrase to describe the concept; it seems incomprehensible that one would wait until now to be invited to start this process.

I would be less than honest if I suggested that I am always able to live up to this lofty challenge. I admit to days where drudgery creeps in and the status quo becomes a little too comfortable (I have never pretended to have Ann Raia's energy). But the spark remains, the love for learning something new, trying something I did not think I could do. And for that I owe, in large part, the wonderful leadership behind the Honors Program, from its inception to now.

I worked on a project with a woman who was a Town Supervisor a couple of years ago, who told me that, as women, we have the opportunity to redefine the world, by doing things differently than they have been done in the past, by doing them "our" way.

I believe that this is the overriding scheme to the Honors Program as well: taking what is known, turning it over and under and inside out, looking at it with new eyes, and finding new solutions, new approaches. And all because some people in the early seventies (that was just yesterday, wasn't it?) had the vision to recognize that the artist has something to offer the scientist and the philosopher has something to offer the historian and vice versa. If one looks carefully, we might find the rebirth of the Renaissance in the halls of a small college for women in New Rochelle.

# The Honors Internship

Colleen D. Duffy, '81

As spring reaches its peak in this May of 2001, I scarcely can believe that twenty years have passed since the Class of 1981 held its Commencement exercises on Maura Lawn. I also marvel at how three short years of college at CNR (I graduated early) have had such a tremendous impact on the rest of my life.

I have just completed my third year as a City Court Judge in Mount Vernon while raising two beautiful kids--Ceili (3) and Patrick (1)--with our third child due this November. I have continued my connection with CNR through the Alumnae/i Association--I am finishing my second year as Treasurer and anticipate continuing in that role for another term.

In regards to my life as a student at CNR, for me, the Honors Program was CNR. From Honors Contracts and the Honors Lecture Series to the National Collegiate Honors Council, the Honors Board and my Honors Internship at the United Nations, much of my education--and later, my career--was shaped by or connected to the Honors Program. In one instance, the Honors Program enabled me to take a 'ho-hum' introductory course such as "Introduction to Sociology" and expand it for Honors credit into an intensive research project on the atomic bomb and its impact on American society. Another Honors project enabled me to work one-on-one with the now-late Sister Christopher Pecheux, O.S.U., a noted Milton scholar, in comparing music in the poetry of T.S. Eliot and Milton (by the way, the paper resulting from that research earned me the English Literature award at graduation).

In addition to my Honors projects, one of the most rewarding experiences of my college career was my United Nations internship. One morning, at my daughter's class picnic, I was sharing with some of the other parents of my daughter's classmates a tale about the skills of my supervisor at the UN.

Lola Costa Esnard was a woman whose capabilities impacted me so greatly that twenty years later I still relate stories about her to others. That UN internship was a key factor in my securing my first "professional" job. Upon graduation from CNR, I attended Boston University's School of Public Communication, earning my Master of Science degree in International Public Relations and Public Affairs.

Although BU's graduate program was a two-year program, I completed all of the course work in one year and was looking for a career in the field of public relations/public affairs while I was working on my thesis and studying for the comprehensive exam.

I was offered a position as the Communications Specialist for the City of Mount Vernon, responsible for handling all of the City's public relations matters with respect to issues of planning and community development. The Commissioner of the Planning Department who hired me later told me that I was selected over the other candidates specifically because of my work experience at the UN.

My position in Mount Vernon turned into a life experience. As a result of that first job, I moved into the community and became active in local government and politics. Even after I left Mount Vernon government to attend law school at NYU, I stayed

involved in the Mount Vernon community, as a member of the City's Zoning Board and as a member of other local community organizations. After law school I spent almost ten years working as an attorney at a Manhattan law firm and then as a litigation attorney for a corporation. I believe

that my continued community involvement in Mount Vernon translated into my being asked in 1995 by certain political leaders to run for a position on the Mount Vernon City Council. Just over two years after I was elected to the City Council, the Mayor of Mount Vernon then appointed me to serve as a City Court Judge to fill a vacancy that was created by the elevation of a prior Judge to County Court. After my one-year appointment, I ran for election and secured my own ten-year term as a Judge.

Significantly, these life and career experiences all directly relate back to my first job as Communications Specialist for Mount Vernon, a position which I secured through my Honors Program experience! Thank you, Dr. Raia and the Honors Program. If not for you . . .

My best wishes and congratulations to all the reunifying Honors classes and to the newly graduating members of the Honors Program. I hope and anticipate that your Honors experiences at CNR will lead each of you into a successful and rewarding future.



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## Still Learning

*Teresa Feil, '86*

As my 15th reunion at The College of New Rochelle fast approaches, I think about the many roads I have traveled since graduation. Though I have lived in several different places on three different continents, I am struck by the fact that many of the life lessons I learned at CNR have been reinforced and strengthened in a variety of settings worldwide.

When searching for a college, I found just what I was looking for at CNR: a place where I would be able to pursue my interests in teaching, journalism and theatre in a nurturing environment. I could live away from home, but not be too far from my parents, to whom I remained very close. I was able to work toward teacher certification in Elementary and Special Education while also earning a BA in Communication Arts and actively participating in Props and Paint.

When I entered CNR in the fall of 1982, I did not know much about the Honors Program, but it soon became an important part of my college experience. As I now live and teach in New York City, I am often reminded of my city explorations with the New York City Colloquium. Upon graduation, my gift book from Dr. Raia was a world atlas. This seemed an appropriate present, as I had decided to immediately pursue a teaching position and work toward a Master's degree so that I could earn permanent teacher certification in New York State. However, as I look back on it now, the atlas seems somewhat prophetic; I had no idea at the time that my teaching career would take me all over the world.

I lived in New Rochelle after graduation and taught fifth grade in Port Chester. Soon after I began teaching, I decided to begin working on my Master's Degree in Education of the Gifted at CNR. I had always been particularly interested in making sure that the needs and interests of all my students could be met. I thoroughly enjoyed that program, as I found that many of the approaches and methods presented were apt for the way I wanted to work with all of my students. The ideas of building on students' interests, using an inquiry-based approach and stimulating critical and creative thinking validated many of my thoughts about what I hoped my teaching could be.

Knowing of my interest in teaching, as well as travel and adventure, Dr. Susan Baum, one of my professors and mentors in the Master's program, informed me about a program seeking teachers overseas. I decided to apply for a position, knowing that I could be offered a spot anywhere in the world. I was offered a job in Keflavik, Iceland. Despite some initial hesitation, I figured that it was meant to be. It turned out to be a fascinating experience, as I met enthusiastic, motivated

and dedicated teachers with incredibly different backgrounds from all over the U.S.

I spent a total of seven years overseas at a variety of U.S. and international schools. In addition to Iceland, I lived and taught in Norway, England and Japan. I could write pages about each experience, but I realize that I have neither the time nor space to do so now. Instead, I will highlight some of the commonalities of these experiences that have affected my present ideas and feelings about education, children, parents and teachers.

First of all, I learned that, no matter what country or culture I was in, children were in need of nurturing, caring teachers. I met many different educators with a variety of teaching styles, philosophies and backgrounds. I found I had the greatest respect for those who, in turn, showed the greatest care and respect for the students they taught. I also learned that many of the people I considered to be the best teachers were the ones who considered themselves to still be learners. I was happy to meet many "veteran" teachers who, in addition to sharing their experiences, insights, and knowledge, were eager to continue learning.

I also confirmed my belief that parents are the primary teachers of their children. I worked with families from many different socioeconomic backgrounds. In general, I found that even the busiest parents were concerned about their children's classroom experiences. They welcomed the opportunity to visit the classroom and participate in class events whenever possible. I learned that open, frequent collaboration is essential, and that teachers, children and parents should strive to work together to provide the best educational experiences for children.

I have found that all of my teaching experiences have been incredibly challenging and rewarding. I have learned something valuable from each school setting, and I consider myself fortunate to have been able to work in so many different places with so many different students and teachers. I believe that I learn something new from my students every day. I strive to continually expand my knowledge and challenge myself.

As a student at CNR, I truly loved learning. In addition to some wonderful courses, I was able to explore my interests and passions there. The Honors Program, as well as my experiences with Props and Paint and *Tatler*, were key components of my college education. At CNR, I never felt like I was just a "number" amidst a huge crowd of students. Most of the professors took a keen and sincere interest in their students as unique individuals. Although I do not necessarily remember

*cont'd on page 38*

# Mirroring Life

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Eileen Songer, '91

In being asked to reflect at this time upon the last ten years, I began to think about what to focus on. Should I focus on my career, discussing law school, my local practice and now my partnership? Should I focus on my family, discussing my marriage of almost ten years and my children? Should I focus on my continuing connection to CNR, discussing my participation in the "Women in Law" panels, my mentoring of students interested in the law, or my lecturing to alum about estate planning? I questioned whether to try to focus on one of these areas, or on all three. Which area of my life was my Honors experience most relevant to?

And then I realized how much the activities in my life ten years later mirrored my activities while a member of the Honors Program at The College of New Rochelle. As I am sure we all recall, academic achievement was not enough to earn our Honors Diploma. Yes, we must work hard in our classes and achieve good grades in order to remain in the Program and earn the Honors Diploma, but that alone was not enough. Dr. Raia wanted us to not only take from the Program what it had to offer, but also to give back to the Program what we had to offer through participation in one or more of the many leadership opportunities that were necessary to the day-to-day operation of the Program. Whether it was participating in the development of an Honors Seminar, or organizing events to welcome incoming Freshwomen into the Program, there was always an area in which any one of us could support the Program from our strengths and interests.

In addition, Honors Conference Day, I believe, made many of us realize that it was not enough to state our case on paper to our professors. It was in making public the results of our research, sharing and defending our ideas and arguments with the larger community that we were able to gain knowledge while giving back to the community. Then, most importantly, all of this learning took place with the support and encouragement of our Honors family. We learned early on that with Dr. Raia's support, and our classmates' collaboration, there was little that we could not accomplish.

Ten years down the road, I realize that I have continued my search for knowledge. I attended Columbia Law School and have developed my Trusts and Estates law practice partially through writing articles and lecturing on topics such as planning for minors. I still see the importance of not only practicing law, but also giving back to the legal community, which I currently do through lecturing and serving as a Director of the New Rochelle Bar Association. And finally, all of this would be meaningless without the support and encouragement of my family--my husband Dan, my 9 year-old son Daniel and my 5 year-old daughter Hope, and my extended family and friends.

I began law school when my son was four months old and while many saw this as a burden, I often saw it as a blessing. I always appreciated that there was more to life than studying and working. I approached my studies and my career with the understanding that family was an important part of who I was and who I wanted to be. Ten years down the road, I do not feel all that different from when graduating 1991. I am re-have made and I con-look for-pectantly r o a d

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photo by Ann Raia

Hope and Daniel McCarthy



photo by Barbara McManus

Dan and Eileen McCarthy

# My Education Since Graduation

Lilian de Carvalho Roidrigues Miller, '96

We young women who graduated in May 1996 from The College of New Rochelle left with high expectations for our future, some of which were met, some of which are not yet. I am looking forward to the reunion weekend in June, where we will celebrate together our challenges and accomplishments and establish a network that will enable us to keep in touch, while at the same time provide each other with meaningful career and personal resources. Our reunion is a place to celebrate our victories and share our disappointments. It is a place to reinvigorate our energies by reconnecting with our dear friends, faculty and colleagues.

In that spirit, I want to take this opportunity to share my immediate impressions of the not-for-profit sector after being employed by Literacy, Inc. (LINC), a young nonprofit working towards linking parents, schools and neighborhoods in New York City to ensure that all children read well by grade three. LINC has given me the opportunity to experience various challenges of the nonprofit world.

Nonprofit management encompasses marketing, public relations, strategic planning, programming, human resources, financial and fundraising considerations that are as important as idealism and a sense of social mission. Nonprofit managers and leaders need to grasp the duality of their enterprise: advancement of the public welfare and securing the well-being and the survival of the venture. The nonprofit sector is a highly exposed and visible world. Nonprofits are tax-exempt because they provide a public benefit. The special treatment of such organizations inevitably means they live at the scrutiny of government bodies often anxious to exercise power to ensure accountability.

Not-for-profit organizations are diverse in their endeavors and character grounding. They vary from organizations that cannot make money because of the very nature of

their mission to organizations that do make money, but for a variety of reasons choose to operate under the limitations of the tax-exempt status. Some nonprofits may even become profitable enough to convert to "profit-making" organizations. Therefore, the term "nonprofit" actually covers a spectrum of organizations as different from each other as they are from for-profit organizations.

The not-for-profit universe is not simply comprised of people who are driven by high ideals and a need to help others. According to Paul B. Firstenberg in his book titled Managing For Profit in the Nonprofit World, pragmatic as well as altruistic motives often explain the behavior of people who work at nonprofit organizations. You will find in the not-for-profit world a need for power, personal approval and vindication—no different from the profit-making sector of our economy. After all, the nonprofit world is a very human place. The working environment of not-for-profits is very diverse, as each organization has its own culture.

Additionally, the public who benefits from nonprofit services is not necessarily the nonprofit's benefactors. For that reason, nonprofits need to deal with multiple publics. Donors, community partners, government officials, small businesses and large corporations are as important to nonprofits as the primary constituencies they serve.

Sharing what I have learned since graduation with the readers of *Femmes d'Esprit* is important to me. I realized that after five years in the workforce, what keeps me eager to advance myself is the sense of self-worth I have acquired by being a member of an intellectual community—the CNR community, formed by women of courage, talent and spirit. The only way to keep that community alive is to continue to exchange our experiences and ideas beyond graduation.

## Sailing to Byzantium

William Butler Yeats

That is not country for old men. The young  
In one another's arms, birds in the trees -  
Those dying generations - at their song,  
The salmon-falls, the mackerel-crowded seas,  
Fish, flesh, or fowl, commend all summer long  
Whatever is begotten, born, and dies.  
Caught in that sensual music all neglect  
Monuments of unageing intellect.

An aged man is but a paltry thing,  
A tattered coat upon a stick, unless  
Soul clap its hands and sing, and louder sing  
For every tatter in its mortal dress,  
Nor is there singing school but studying  
Monuments of its own magnificence;  
And therefore I have sailed the seas and come  
To the holy city of Byzantium

O sages standing in God's holy fire  
As in the gold mosaic of a wall,  
Come from the holy fire, perne in a gyre,  
And be the singing-masters of my soul.  
Consume my heart away; sick with desire  
And fastened to a dying animal  
It knows not what it is; and gathers me  
Into the artifice of eternity.

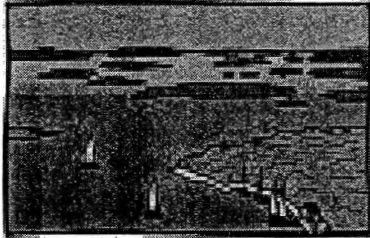
Once out of nature I shall never take  
My bodily form from any natural thing,  
But such a form as Grecian goldsmiths make  
Of hammered gold and gold enameling  
To keep a drowsy Emperor awake;  
Or set upon a golden bough to sing  
To lords and ladies of Byzantium  
Of what is past, or passing, or to come.

# Life Is But A Dream...

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Kelley Allen, '99

Out of the many surprises that offer themselves as the City of New Rochelle, the place possesses one fine asset that promises to be a downfall to any as-  
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Island,  
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Pelham Road, even the Horseshoe Park that once housed a world champion horseshoe thrower, and the other unnamed parks that I can not remember. All of them less than a good ten-minute walk from CNR--great temptation for a procrastinator such as myself, especially on a fine late Spring day.

When I was a freshman, a whole group of us went kite flying on a bitterly cold day to Davenport Park. As we ate cold cafeteria pizza on the rocks overlooking the Long Island Sound--shivering--I found myself intrigued by the nearby islands that littered the waters. Particularly one island. Despite being overgrown, the empty houses still stood and a huge water tower loomed in the distance. Later on, I found out that this was David's Island. It used to be a military base. And Donald Trump tried to buy it to develop luxury condos.

Throughout my next four years at CNR, I kept coming back to Davenport Park, Glenn Island, and to Orchard Beach Park in the Bronx (which I actually walked to once!). When it was warm enough outside, I would bring my hammock and study. I would also ponder on David's Island. What is on it? Do people live there? What is in those empty houses? What is the story behind this place? I began to dream about David's Island and how I could go about getting there. I found out that the Island is condemned and it is illegal to trespass on it. Oh well, I thought, I have never been arrested before.

My idle thoughts became more passionate during my senior year. I was determined to set foot on David's Island. I inquired about renting a sea craft at REI on Main Street. Renting was not a problem; however, transport was. Everybody I knew who owned a car was insistently asked and pleaded with--to no avail. Nobody wanted to assist with my crazy idea.

My time at CNR was coming quickly to an

end. Unfortunately, the hectic schedule of senior year usually prevents such follies from ever happening. This was the case with my expedition to David's Island. But I was determined to sail by the end of my senior year. It would be a metaphor for my achievement and growth at CNR. David's was a tangible representation of the pinnacle of my CNR years--a goal that took me four years to complete. Alas, it was not meant to be . . . .

However, one year had passed since my graduation. Life was different, very different.

Strawfest was just around the corner. The hint of spring touched my psyche and I was determined once more to sail to David's Island. Now, with a beat-up 1992 Jimmy in hand, land transport for the kayak was not a problem. Roy (my new and improved English boyfriend) and I launched our Old Town Loone (with compliments from REI) at the boat dock at Glen Island.

It was a typical spring day in New Rochelle, bright and glorious. Before reaching the end of Glen Island, I heard a laugh that was so familiar that I stopped in my tracks. Sitting on the sunny rocks was one of my old CNR cronies, one whom I had not seen in years. I could not believe that I literally sailed right into her! We talked for at least one hour, she high above me on the rocks while I bobbed up and down with the waves. She admitted that she was not too surprised to see me randomly sailing about in a kayak.

Soon, I reached David's Island--a dream come true! I will not tell you what I saw because that is not the point of the story (plus, you should go see it yourself!), but it was better than I even imagined!

Now I have another dream about David's Island. One at least complete is even its prede- Wouldn't it if CNR David's Island upon shores? all the new



that will take five years to (if at all) and crazier than cessor. be amazing could own land and ex- its rocky Think about space, pro-

grams, and degrees that The College of New Rochelle could benefit from with this new land!

Who's going to tow me this time?

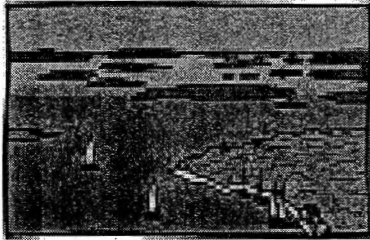
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# Life Is But A Dream...

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Kelley Allen, '99

Out of the many surprises that offer themselves as the City of New Rochelle, the place possesses one fine asset that promises to be a downfall to any as-  
student-- parks. Glen Hudson, port, the o u s children's that line



Pelham Road, even the Horseshoe Park that once housed a world champion horseshoe thrower, and the other unnamed parks that I can not remember. All of them less than a good ten-minute walk from CNR--great temptation for a procrastinator such as myself, especially on a fine late Spring day.

When I was a freshman, a whole group of us went kite flying on a bitterly cold day to Davenport Park. As we ate cold cafeteria pizza on the rocks overlooking the Long Island Sound--shivering--I found myself intrigued by the nearby islands that littered the waters. Particularly one island. Despite being overgrown, the empty houses still stood and a huge water tower loomed in the distance. Later on, I found out that this was David's Island. It used to be a military base. And Donald Trump tried to buy it to develop luxury condos.

Throughout my next four years at CNR, I kept coming back to Davenport Park, Glenn Island, and to Orchard Beach Park in the Bronx (which I actually walked to once!). When it was warm enough outside, I would bring my hammock and study. I would also ponder on David's Island. What is on it? Do people live there? What is in those empty houses? What is the story behind this place? I began to dream about David's Island and how I could go about getting there. I found out that the Island is condemned and it is illegal to trespass on it. Oh well, I thought, I have never been arrested before.

My idle thoughts became more passionate during my senior year. I was determined to set foot on David's Island. I inquired about renting a sea craft at REI on Main Street. Renting was not a problem; however, transport was. Everybody I knew who owned a car was insistently asked and pleaded with--to no avail. Nobody wanted to assist with my crazy idea.

My time at CNR was coming quickly to an

end. Unfortunately, the hectic schedule of senior year usually prevents such follies from ever happening. This was the case with my expedition to David's Island. But I was determined to sail by the end of my senior year. It would be a metaphor for my achievement and growth at CNR. David's was a tangible representation of the pinnacle of my CNR years--a goal that took me four years to complete. Alas, it was not meant to be . . . .

However, one year had passed since my graduation. Life was different, very different.

Strawfest was just around the corner. The hint of spring touched my psyche and I was determined once more to sail to David's Island. Now, with a beat-up 1992 Jimmy in hand, land transport for the kayak was not a problem. Roy (my new and improved English boyfriend) and I launched our Old Town Loone (with compliments from REI) at the boat dock at Glen Island.

It was a typical spring day in New Rochelle, bright and glorious. Before reaching the end of Glen Island, I heard a laugh that was so familiar that I stopped in my tracks. Sitting on the sunny rocks was one of my old CNR cronies, one whom I had not seen in years. I could not believe that I literally sailed right into her! We talked for at least one hour, she high above me on the rocks while I bobbed up and down with the waves. She admitted that she was not too surprised to see me randomly sailing about in a kayak.

Soon, I reached David's Island--a dream come true! I will not tell you what I saw because that is not the point of the story (plus, you should go see it yourself!), but it was better than I even imagined!

Now I have another dream about David's Island. One at least complete is even its prede- Wouldn't it if CNR David's Island upon shores? all the new



that will take five years to (if at all) and crazier than c e s s o r . be amazing could own land and ex- its rocky Think about space, pro-

grams, and degrees that The College of New Rochelle could benefit from with this new land!

Who's going to tow me this time?

## Transitions

Jenna Sunderland, '99

I have been told that I am in transition. I know for some people that means changing jobs, moving to a new area, or going back to school. For me it means getting married, leaving the job I have held since graduating from CNR two years ago, moving to New York City, and beginning law school, in precisely that order, all within a six week time frame. I suppose to the average person that would be chaos, but to an Honors Program alumna, it is just a transition time.

When I think back on my life to this time two years ago, it, in so many ways, mirrors my life now. I think that is a testament not only to the person I became while at CNR, but also to the opportunities I had through the Honors Program. I still have the same interests, values, and more importantly, the same character I had before I entered "the real world." I do not think that many college graduates can say that.

I graduated in 1999 with a double major in Communication Arts and Women's Studies. During my senior year, I found my-

self working hard to bring to the forefront of people's awareness, on-campus and in the community, several issues affecting women today, particularly domestic violence. I spent three days per week teaching "teen dating violence" awareness and education to junior high and high school students in Yonkers, Mount Vernon and New Rochelle.

As the leading cause of injury to women in the United States, I thought it also important to raise consciousness about violence toward women on campus. As one of my major undertakings, I brought the Westchester County portion of the national "Clothesline Project" to CNR, in addition to making a presentation on the subject for Honors Senior Symposium.



Jenna and fiancé.

Now I find myself in the trenches. For the past two years I have been employed and empowered as the Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Strafford County Domestic Violence Project in Strafford County, New Hampshire. I have learned that it is one thing to learn about an issue, to be empathetic, sympathetic and compassionate, and to educate and make others aware, and it is an entirely different thing to work day in and day out with domestic violence survivors.

As a Victim Assistance Coordinator, it is my job to work with domestic violence survivors thrust into the criminal justice system by their batterer's arrest. This is not a place where anyone likes, or wants to be, under any circumstances. I have been called a saint and a savior; I have been hugged, squeezed, clutched and cried on. I have been turned on, hung up on, and cursed at; called a bitch and a home wrecker--and this is on an average week.

Add on top of that batterers who truly believe it is their right to control, police officers who think that most women lie about being battered, judges who have been ordered not to incarcerate people due to overcrowding in the jails, and a criminal justice system equipped to handle the dynamics of a bar room brawl, but not the dynamics of a man or woman who systematically abuses his or her partner.

I have learned more about violence, more about people, and more about the criminal justice system than I ever anticipated. And now I feel it is time to take what I have learned back to New York with me to begin law school in the fall.

A native New Englander, prior to college I had traveled up and down the east coast, though never stopping in New York City, and never venturing farther west than the Mississippi River. The Honors Program changed all that.

Through our membership in the National Collegiate Honors Council, I was afforded the op-

portunity to attend and present at conferences in Portland, Maine; Atlanta, Georgia; Chicago, Illinois; Washington, D.C.; and Salisbury, Maryland. It became a running joke among conference-goers that anyone who upset Dr. Raia on a trip for whatever reason would have to face the consequences. These consequences included being stranded in Atlanta an extra night due to a hurricane in our flight path, and, in a particularly comedic fashion, being stranded in Wells, Maine, after our rental van broke down. Only to be rescued by my family in a caravan of vehicles, brought to my parent's house in New Hampshire, spending the night (all 13 of us), and having my own car break down on the way back to New York.

The experience certainly taught me that laughter is the best form of crisis management (and, more importantly, not to upset Dr. Raia).

With the good fortune of having made close friends in my freshman year at CNR, by the time I was a sophomore year I was a seasoned pro at traveling in and around the City. I had learned my way from roommates and friends who grew up in the boroughs or on Long Island and, through them, was able to forego experiencing the Big City through a newcomer's eyes, skipping straight to "been there, done that."

But in the fall of 1996, I had an opportunity to experience the City for the first time all over again, this time from the perspective of people with fresh eyes, some of whom had never made it to the east coast at all before. As a member of the 1996 New York City Honors Semester, co-sponsored by NCHC and CNR, I was able to take specially designed Honors seminars with 29 students from all over the country. Their stories and perspectives let me see—really for the first time—what an extraordinary place NYC truly is.

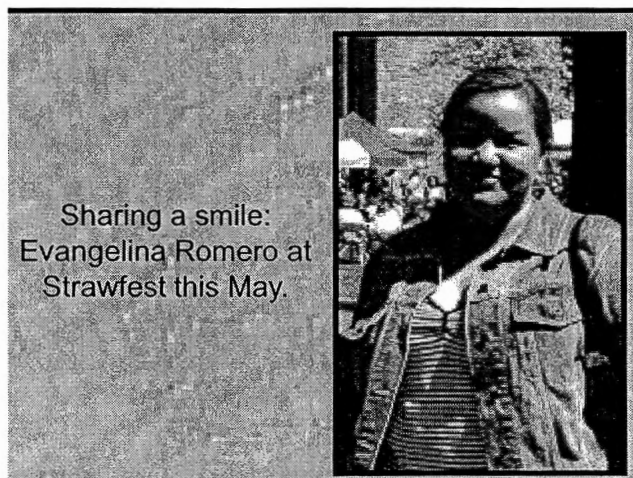
When my fiancé and I decided it was time for a change and that we felt it was time to leave New England, there was little question about where we wanted to spend the next phase of our lives. People ask if we are afraid to move away from all of our friends and family. And though my fiancé has not been to the City in ten years, I feel like we have already got friends and family there. In addition to friends I met at CNR (whom I can not wait to see!), I have got my friends from the Honors Program, those from the NYC Honors Semester, and Dr. Raia, all of whom plan to reunite at my wedding in July.

The Honors Program not only provided a forum for lasting friendships, it also taught me to seek out women as friends and role models. This is something that has proved invaluable in my working life, as my girlfriends at work are among my best friends and the most extraordinary people I know. In addition, I cannot overlook the strength in women I meet in court every day, women in horribly tragic situations, who are often overlooked by their communities and by society at large.

It is hard to believe that it has been two years since graduation. I do not think that at this time in 1999 I could have guessed where I would be now. I do not think I had any idea how well I was prepared for life after college because of the Honors Program and Dr. Raia.

However, I understand now that I was, and I understand that I am prepared for the next phase of my life. The lessons I have learned about the value of women's thoughts, ideas and aspirations allow my husband-to-be and me to see each other as equals, rather than only as man and wife. The adventures I had through the Honors Semester provided for the pulse of New York City to flow through me continuously, even over the past two years, 250 miles away. And the thirst for knowledge cultivated through the Honors Program has led me to a place where I am preparing to become a student again.

This August I will be a first year student on full scholarship at the Benjamin Cardozo School of Law in New York City. This July I will be married. And right now, I am preparing for an extremely intense transition phase. I am happy to say that this is not chaos, it is what we Honors Alumnae like to refer to as LIFE, and we are loving every minute of it!



Sharing a smile:  
Evangelina Romero at  
Strawfest this May.

## R E U N I O N I N G

**The Class of 1976**  
Twenty-Five Year Reunion**Dr. Nilda Bayron:** Psychology

On the faculty at Bank Street College of Education, she teaches graduate courses in special and bilingual education and supervises student teachers in the field. She has a private practice, consulting, conducting psycho-educational assessment, and providing educational therapy. She received her MA in special education from Long Island University and her Ph.D. in special education from Columbia Teacher's College. Married to a teacher for 14 years, Nilda works as a special education teacher in both bilingual and monolingual settings, serving a wide range of children. She was assistant director of the Pediatric Learning Center at Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, and Chairperson for the Committee on Special Education for the Yonkers School System.

**Dr. Kathleen Cravero:** French and Philosophy

Ursula Laurus 1996. After her senior year Honors internship at the United Nations, Kathleen earned her doctorate in political science at Fordham University and was hired by UNICEF. She earned a Masters degree in Public Health from Columbia University and has been on assignment to other UN agencies (WHO, UNDP) in Chad, New York, Geneva, Uganda, and Burundi. She travels a great deal, speaking and writing her advocacy on global health issues. Since March 2000, she has been Deputy Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS based in Geneva, Switzerland, assisting in the management of the UNAIDS Secretariat and responsible for external relations and program support departments. Always willing to make time for CNR between trips and organizing conferences, she wrote articles for the *Quarterly* magazine and for this Alumnae Issue.

**Genellen McGrath:** English

A computer specialist and reference librarian for the Jericho Public Library, she lives on Long Island with her family. Genellen visited campus to speak at the 1996 Honors Senior Dinner.

**Michele McMahon:** Business

Instructional design specialist and Director at Forum Corporation in Massachusetts.

**Teri Rosen:** Philosophy

Licensed counselor and hypnotist at Cedar Grove Manor in New Jersey.

**Lorrayne Yen:** International Studies

Senior Vice President of Marketing, Fidelity Foundation.

**The Class of 1981**  
Twenty Year Reunion**Mary Ellen Colangelo:** Sociology and Chemistry

Social worker for Family & Children's Services in New Jersey.

**Elizabeth Donnolo:** Social Work

A licensed clinical social worker and homemaker, Liz sends a Christmas letter *cum* family photo each year, filled with news of the four Bonet children's development, Angel's professional activities, and Liz's volunteer work in her Suwanee, Georgia, community; currently freelancing, she is considering starting her own business.

**Colleen Duffy:** Communication Arts and English

After exploring a number of careers as publicist, professor, lawyer, and politician, Colleen was sworn in as Mount Vernon City Court Judge in 1998. Currently CNR Alumna/i Association Treasurer, she and her husband have a daughter and son, and are expecting a third child in November. Her full agenda never keeps her from saying "yes" to calls from CNR to speak, particularly on issues of women in the workforce. She was the Alum speaker at Honors Convocation in 1999 and has an article in this issue.

**Allison McMillan:** Communication Arts

Writer and editor at AML Creative Communications in California.

**Deirdre O'Sullivan:** Biology**The Class of 1986**  
Fifteen Year Reunion**Karen Bruder:** Communication Arts

Legal assistant for Doctors Associates, Inc. in Connecticut.

**Dr. Diane Ceruzzi:** Biology

Osteopathic physician at Spring Road Family Practice in Pennsylvania.

**Gina D'Aprile:** Philosophy

After receiving her law degree from Boston University, Gina practiced commercial litigation in Manhattan for five years before marrying and moving to California in 1995. She passed the California Bar and worked as the director of a legal bar review company in San Diego. She moved to Los Angeles to open an audio-visual dealership for CCS Presentation Systems, Inc., in late 1996 with her husband, David Riberi. They now have a thriving multimedia presentation systems company with branch offices in San Jose and San Diego, over which Gina presides as President and General Counsel. Gina works with inner-city children as a volunteer for the local literacy group "The Wonder of Reading."

**Kathleen Davis:** Classics

Having worked with the archaeologists at the Stoa of Attalos Museum after graduation, she married an Athenian citizen, and had a son. Classmate Elizabeth Morgan writes that Kathleen still resides in Athens, working for Teletel, a Greek communications company.

**Teresa Feil:** Communication Arts

In 1989 she earned a CNR Masters degree *summa cum laude*

in the Education of the Gifted and has visited campus to speak to undergraduates about education. A teacher at The Dalton School since 1996, Teresa lives in New York City, having taught abroad in the Department of Defense Dependents Schools from 1989 to 1993 in England, Norway, and Iceland, and in the Nagoya International School in Japan from 1993 to 1996. She is working currently on a second Masters degree as part of the Math Leadership Program at Bank Street College of Education. This fall she will move into the position of math specialist for Grades K-3. In the midst of planning her wedding on June 23, she wrote an article for this issue.

**Grace Gannon:** Communication Arts

In response to the 1999 International Holiday Celebration invitation, Grace called from Buffalo to wish the Honors Program a Happy 25th Anniversary.

**Catherine Goulet:** History

Program Director for the Philadelphia Historic Preservation.

**Jean Levicki:** Communication Arts

Manager for Publicity at Twentieth Century Fox in California.

**Elizabeth Morgan:** French

Elizabeth writes that she works for the Albany Institute of History and Art as Executive Assistant to the Director, assisting in the coordination and oversight of all aspects of the Institute's operation, governance and administration. Founded in 1791, it is one of the oldest museums in the US. Its mission is to collect, preserve, and interpret the art, history, and culture of Albany and the Upper Hudson Valley Region. Famous for its Hudson River School paintings, it holds one of the best collections in the US documenting the life and culture of this region from the late 17th century to the present. She is involved in preparations for the reopening of the museum, which is undergoing a \$17.7 million dollar renovation and expansion. She adds "I am also an avid runner, in the past two years having completed the NYC Marathon as well as Prague. This year my goal is the Paris Marathon in April and Dublin in October. I also travel to NYC to do one race a month in Central Park (While in NYC, I noticed that Theresa Feil is also a member of the New York Road Runners Club)"

**Elizabeth Murphy:** Political Science

Homemaker; works at Bianco & Pepe.

**Kathy Robinson:** Business

**The Class of 1991**  
Ten Year Reunion

**Stacy Begin:** Political Science

She is the Executive Director for the Maine Children's Theater, a non-profit organization dating from the 1920's for children age 3 through high school. She is having her first child in May, after which she will return to her job part-time. She lives with her husband, Matt Holbrook, in Maine.

**Heidi Clay:** Art Therapy

In May 1993 Heidi received her Masters degree in Art Therapy from George Washington University and took a position as Therapeutic Recreation Specialist at the Isabella Geriatric Center in NYC. In December 2000 she became Director of Activities at Montgomery Nursing Home in Montgomery, NY. After living in NYC and NJ for six years, Heidi, along with her husband, Willie, and two children, Michael (6) and Angelica (3), moved to Orange County, NY.

**Samira D'Souza:** Business

**Dr. Laura Hilton:** History

**Jody Ouellette:** Art

After graduation Jody lived in New York for four years, working first as a production designer at a medical book publishing company, then as a designer at a library reference book publisher. Currently she lives at her family home in Connecticut, volunteering at the local soup kitchen, where she prepares lunch for the poor, homeless, and disabled. She remembers chairing the Honors Publicity Committee from 1987 to 1991, designing calendars and course fliers.

**Lourdes Pichardo:** Business

**Eileen Songer:** Political Science

Partner since January 2001 at Muldoon, Horgan & Loughman and a Director of the New Rochelle Bar Association, Eileen received her *Juris Doctor* degree in 1995 from Columbia University and is certified to practice law in New York and Connecticut. In 1998 she published an article in the Westchester County Law Journal on guardianship reporting requirements. Often on campus to speak at or attend Honors events, she, her two children, Danny and Hope, and her husband, Dr. Daniel McCarthy, are New Rochelle neighbors. She attended Academic Convocation in November and contributed an article to this issue.

**The Class of 1996**  
Five Year Reunion

**Aileen Apat:** Biology

After graduation she took courses in molecular biology at SUNY Binghamton and then transferred to SUNY Albany, where she will receive her Masters in Teaching in Biology in May, and will be New York State certified to teach grades 7-12. She writes that she is presently focused on finding a job and paying off her school loans.

**Stephanie Bell:** Art

Currently a technology associate at ModemMedia, an interactive advertising company, Stephanie's past year has been an exciting one: she made her first trip to Italy in December, decided to leave Darwin Digital in January to explore new professional directions, took some time to take golf lessons and enjoy the New York cultural scene, and did some not-for-profit temping. Since then, she moved to Brooklyn and is doing

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volunteer work at the Brooklyn Botanical Garden. Stephanie is very excited about her new choices. Creator of the Honors Student History Book, in Spring 1999 she participated in the Honors "Myths" panel "Women at Work." The Honors Class of 2000 appreciates her professional development session on 'Job Search, Resume, and Interview' for the Fall '99 Senior Symposium.

**Wen Chen:** Chemistry

Earning her Masters Degree in Medical Sciences at Harvard Medical School in 1998, as a Biomedical Scientist Fellow, Wen continues to work toward her Ph.D. degree in Biological and Biomedical Sciences with a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Predoctoral Fellowship in Biological Sciences.

**Jennifer Cianciolo:** Biology

After graduation she enrolled in the Masters program at SUNY Syracuse in Environmental Science and Forestry. On March 19, she successfully defended her Masters thesis ("I've been working on soil mites if you didn't know that. They are fabulous, adorable wonderful little creatures. The thrust of my thesis is an evolutionary question about sexual reproduction"), the research results of which she presented at a conference on evolution in Indiana in 2000. She plans to take a year off before starting a Ph.D. program ("I really need a break from academia. My Masters took forever because I changed advisors once and projects twice! I'm not sorry about it though. It's been a good journey--although I'm broke, and I'm not sure what comes next..."). She will assist another graduate student to collect data for her research project on grasslands birds in Wisconsin this summer; in August she's off to London for six months, possibly doing research in the British Museum of Natural History.

**Jennifer Coursen:** History  
Homemaker

**Eleanor Fallon:** Art History

After graduation she moved to New York City. Currently she is the Development and Operations Associate for The Lacoste School of the Arts, which has a two-person office in New York. A non-profit art school, it is located in tiny Lacoste (pop. 400), France, some 25 miles from Avignon, where she spends five months of the year ("I love my job and love the village"). In February she was busy arranging an alumni show at the Alliance Francaise, working from 10 am to 9 pm most days ("I'm not complaining!"), in all levels of non-profit management ("I end up doing a little bit of everything").

**Jacqueline Maxwell:** Political Science

As an undergraduate she interned at the International YMCA, where she was hired as an administrative assistant. In January she was promoted to Assistant Director of Public and UN Relations, responsible for public education about the United Nations and global issues. She is applying to the Non-Profit Management program at NYU's Wagner School of Public Service. Now a Park Slope resident, Jackie continues to appear at CNR to promote international education and UN awareness.

**Jeannine Nault:** Communication Arts  
BBC Worldwide Americas

**Maryanne Picone:** Business

After graduation she taught math at Salesian High School and now at Hastings High School. Having discovered that she enjoys teaching, Maryanne is working toward a Masters degree at CUNY Lehman. She recently married Mark Gocman, and moved to a new house only a few blocks from her old one in New Rochelle. She attended the Honors Program's 25th Anniversary Holiday Celebration and Academic Convocation in November.

**Irma Rivera:** Communication Arts

Currently the IT Director of Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute in the Bronx, Irma received her Masters in Public Administration from NYU in 1999 and completed the MCSE track in October 2000. She has been with her company for three years, starting as a staff associate and moving up to the position of network/data manager, involved in programmatic projects dealing with the company's workforce. In her spare time over the last two years she has traveled to Italy and Austria. The November 2000 Alumnae Issue of *Femmes* encouraged Irma to reconnect with CNR, though she keeps in touch with her old CNR friends.

**Lilian de Carvalho Roidrigues:** Art History

Married on May 8, 1999, at the CNR chapel to Bostonian David Miller, she lives in New Rochelle and works in NYC (where she ran into Stephanie Bell on the subway!) as the Executive Assistant to the Executive Director of Literacy Inc. (LINC), a nonprofit agency founded by a former New York State Regent. She completed a certificate program at New York University in Arts Administration and plans to apply to a Master's program in Marketing. She was president of the Class of 1996, planning their reunion. Encouraged by Jackie Maxwell to write, she has an article in this issue.

**Katherine Williams:** Psychology  
Project Assistant

**The Class of 2000**  
One Year Reunion

**Shakuntala Balram:** Biology

Devi is continuing her study toward the BS in Nursing at CNR's School of Nursing.

**Erin Carmichael:** English

Erin currently lives in Joliet, Illinois. She is planning her wedding for October 20 of this year.

**Michelle Echevarria:** Communication Arts

After a funded summer internship at Arnold Communications in Boston, she became Junior Web Designer for Onlinebenefits.com, headquartered in Uniondale, Long Island. Michelle was the first student to serve on the CNR Technology Committee and developed the College's Intranet website.

She created the Honors Program's first website in March 1999, expanding and redesigning it in the following semester as part of an Honors independent study. Applying to the New School to enter the graduate program in media communications, Michelle shares what she has learned in the past year with readers of this issue.

**Andrea Hindmarsh:** Communication Arts

Director of Communications at United Way of Westchester and Putnam, Andrea has been accepted to Iona's Masters program in Organization Communications for the fall. She volunteers for the Long Island Labrador Rescue and plans to work for the PBA and Guiding Eyes for the Blind. In regular touch with CNR, she helped the current Honors Seniors organize their Honors Senior lunch.

**Jennifer Horbal:** History

A study skills teacher for grades 6-8 in the Milford, Connecticut, school district, she enrolled in a graduate language arts class at Quinnipiac University and is interviewing for a teaching position in history. In regular contact with CNR via email, Jenn reunited with classmates at Strawfest and attended Honors sister Mary Job's Senior Symposium seminar. NCHC award-winning Editor of *Femmes*, Jenn reprises her Hood and Awards "Senior Reflections" in this issue.

**Amadika Hospedales:** Biology

Amadika has completed her first year of graduate study in the physical therapy program at New York Medical College.

**Dayanara Hudson:** Communication Arts

After a funded summer internship in Washington, D.C., at the USDA Farm Service Agency Public Affairs Office, Dayanara began the new year as Internet and Communications Coordinator, working for the Huntington's Disease Society of America in Manhattan. She is looking forward to new learning experiences, notes that her work environment is a busy, friendly and supportive one, and is pleased that her CEO is a woman: "women actually outnumber the men in the office, come to think of it". Dayi reunited with Honors classmates at Strawfest 2001.

**Griselda Kim:** Biology

Working as a research assistant at New York Medical College, Griselda is involved in cancer research. She writes, "the job is not what I expected my dream job to be but it pays my bills and loans for the moment." She is applying to graduate schools in infectious diseases for Fall 2001.

**Kelly Anne Larkin:** Psychology

Kelly is finishing her first year as a Resource Room teacher for 2nd-8th graders at St. Gregory's School in Queens and as a graduate student in the Reading Specialist Master's program at St. John's University. She attended Academic Convocation in November and reunited with Honors classmates at Strawfest 2001.

**Theresa Llewellyn:** Biology

Theresa completed her first year in the physical therapy program at New York University.

**Jaclyn Martinez:** Chemistry

**Dawn Phillips:** Social Work

She is an assistant teacher at the Child Development Center at Computer Associates, where she works with the infants. Married to Glen Guiltner in June 2000, she had her first child, Rebecca Elizabeth, on March 17 of this year. Dawn introduced her daughter to classmates at Strawfest.

**Renuka Rajani:** Biology

Currently working in a lab in New York City, Renuka has been accepted into the Milano graduate school, part of the New School.

**Gloria Romero:** English

Gloria has been CNR Admission Counselor since she graduated, serving as liaison to the Honors Program and coordinating efforts to recruit talented students for CNR. Her knowledge of the Program's mission and philosophy, her computer and organization skills, and her participation in National Collegiate Honors Council national and regional conferences make her an excellent partner in Honors recruitment. She reunited with Honors classmates at Strawfest 2001.

**Noela Taban:** Biology and Chemistry

Working as a chemist for Hagelin & Co., a fragrance company in New Jersey, she is currently applying to medical schools.

**Monika Wargo:** International Studies

After graduation, Monika signed up for Americorps VISTA, "the domestic Peace Corps," and was assigned to work for the Cherokee National Historical Society in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, the capitol of the Cherokee Nation. In November she transferred to Austin, Texas, to work with the Texas Alliance for Human Needs, a busy statewide multi-issue coalition of organizations concerned about issues affecting low and moderate income Texans. She writes that she has learned a great deal about state and national legislation, particularly criminal justice reform, which was her intention before embarking on a career in the foreign service (read about her Americorps experiences in her article "Life in the 'Real World'" in the Spring 2001 issue of *Femmes*). On July 1st of this year, she returns to Washington, D.C., to live at the International Students House and intern for the second summer with the Foreign Service Institute. On August 24th, she starts graduate school at George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs, to study U.S. Foreign Policy. While she regrets leaving Austin now as the summer fun begins ("outdoor activities: free concerts at the park, street festivals, and lots of hiking and water sports—I recently went sea kayaking in Palacios and just loved it"), she is looking forward to being "in a city with GOOD public transportation!" and "closer to everybody—I miss everyone at home."

## C L A S S

## The Class of 1977

**Margaret-Ann Clarke:** International Studies

**Mia Feroletto:** Art

Art dealer for Mia Feroletto Fine Art Planning.

**Constance Hom:** Sociology

She is an interior landscape contractor in her own landscaping business, Buckingham Greenery Inc.

**Mary Elizabeth Slevin:** Art

An attorney at the firm of Crane, Greene and Parente, she lives outside Albany with her husband, Michael Garamond, and their thoroughbred dogs. When not practicing law, she can be found in her garage, working beside her husband on their full-size kit airplane. Mary Beth addressed Honors Seniors at their 1996 Dinner. She has contributed an article to this issue.

**Dr. Karen Sorci:** Psychology

Director of the Americans for Disabilities Act and adjunct faculty at Saint Leo University in Tampa, Florida, she and Dr. Raia met at St. Leo's 2000 Honors Convocation.

## The Class of 1978

**Dr. Marianne Barton:** Psychology

Graduating early from CNR, she was accepted into the Clinical Psychology program at the University of Connecticut, earned her Masters in 1982 and her Ph.D. and Phi Beta Kappa key in 1983. She began her career as an educator at Brown University and is now Director of the Psychological Services Clinic in the Department of Psychology, researcher and teacher in the graduate program in Clinical Psychology at the University of Connecticut. Wife of psychologist David Henry and mother of two daughters, Megan and Kelsey, Marianne gave the address at the 1999 Honors 25th Anniversary Holiday Celebration.

**Jill Griffin:** Political Science

As an attorney for the National Labor Relations Board in Washington D.C., Jill lives with her family in Princeton Junction, N. J., traveling often between courts in D.C. and N.Y. Jill was a student in the first NCHC Semester in 1976, "The Bicentennial Honors Semester." She was a speaker at the 1996 Honors Senior Dinner.

**Louise Guerriero:** Psychology

*Ursula Laurus 1998*

A teacher at Wappingers Junior High School, Louise received her Masters degree and continues to focus on the education of her own children and community volunteer work.

**Karen Higgins:** Psychology

**Nancy Kelly:** Business

Stockbroker in New York.

**Carolina Vaccaro:** Communication Arts

Freelance writer

## The Class of 1979

**Donna Alberghini:** Psychology

Principal of the St. Rose School in Newton, Connecticut.

**Catherine Bartholomew:** Communication Arts

Executive Director of "The Teen Line."

**Katie Carr:** Sociology

Homemaker

**Anne Degnan:** International Studies

**Ruth Doherty:** English, Education Certification

For Commander Ruth A. Mohr, her BA was only the beginning of her formal education. Commissioned in 1983 by the Rhode Island Officers Candidate School, she earned a Masters in Adult Education in 1985 from the University of Rhode Island, a Masters in National Security Studies in 1994 from Georgetown University, and enrolled in many service programs. She educated others as well, becoming a Navy subspecialist in Education and Training; she is noted for her work on issues surrounding women in the armed services. Much decorated and honored, she is a Joint Doctrine Action Officer assigned to the Asst. Secretary of the Navy, living in Arlington, VA, with her husband and two children.

**Dr. Carol Esposito:** Sociology

Licensed Psychologist

**Ann Kennally:** Psychology *Ursula Laurus 1999*

Having received her Masters degree in Social Work from Fordham University after graduation, she is now the Executive Director for the Vassar Brothers Hospital Foundation.

**Loretta Lordi** (deceased)

**Amy Robinson:** English

Teacher at Public School 146, Amy earned her Masters degree in Administration.

**Nora Rudden:** Art

Autoprep Operator for Applied Graphics Technologies.

**Donna Strudwick:** Political Science

Attorney and Associate since 1995 at Burke, Lipton, Puleo & McCarthy in White Plains, she lives in Pelham Manor. Donna earned a Master of Science degree in Health Systems Administration in 1982, and her *Juris Doctor* from Pace University School of Law in 1994. She was admitted to the Federal Bar of the southern district of New York, and the State Bars of New York and Florida. She attended the 1999 Honors 25th Anniversary Holiday Celebration and the 2000 Academic Convocation.

**Maria White:** International Studies

*Ursula Laurus 1994*

Vice President of her own company, Global Organization Development, Abeline, Inc., in New York City, Maria often returns to campus to speak to undergraduates interested in working on the international scene.

## The Class of 1980

**Mary Beth Bond:** Sociology

Mother of five children, she is the development coordinator at Family Services of Waterbury.

**Marguerite d'Aprile:** Art

By profession Marguerite is a museum curator and design consultant. After obtaining her completion Masters degree in Museum Studies, she worked as a Senior Editor on the Getty Art and Architecture Thesaurus for 14 years. Having successfully filled in on an emergency basis as a substitute AP Art History teacher, she teaches now in the Princeton Regional School system. Married to Stewart Smith, she is the mother of two children and an active member of various organizations in Princeton, N.J. In June 2000, she visited with Dr. Raia at The College of New Jersey, and attended the 2000 Academic Convocation ("I had a hard time sleeping that night. Years of memories keep coming back into my mind and how I wish I could

have relived them all—it has been 16 years since I returned to campus—but there was nothing that would have stopped me from coming to the Honors Convocation and dinner. My own life is richer because of the Honors Program”).

**Magaly Denis:** Sociology

Former Vice President of Human Resources at the Chase Manhattan Foundation, this long-time resident of New York now lives in Houston, Texas.

**Patricia Donovan:** Biology

Vice President of Bennett Bros Yachts Inc.

**Judith Falls:** Education

She holds a Masters degree as a special education teacher in the Union-Endicott School District.

**Dr. Mary Kathleen Madigan:** French

Language professor and chair at Kings College in Bristol, VA, for 11 years, in 1999 she became Professor and Chair of Modern Languages at Rockhurst University, Kansas City's Jesuit College. She did graduate work in Spain, acquiring proficiency in her third modern foreign language. Kate travels frequently to Europe, along with students, and with colleagues.

**Beth Niewenhaus:** Art

An art therapist, she works in a nursing home in Connecticut.

**Joanne Remy:** Sociology and Social Work

Having earned her Masters in Social Work, she is a consultant, working at home.

## The Class of 1982

**Randee Lee Allen:** History

Assistant Vice President of CIGNA Group Insurance Company.

**Anne Donnelly:** Communication Arts

After graduation she worked in public relations in NYC as a full account executive for Ruder, Finn & Rotman. Currently a homemaker with three children and many volunteer commitments, she has lived in Garden City, L.I., for 12 years with her husband of 18 years, Jim Gregg. A Girl Scout leader for a time, she is active in parish life and on the PTA Board for the St. Joseph School, serving as President in 1999, and using her publicity skills to promote the school.

**Ida Magnifico:** History

An attorney, in 1999 she left her job as assistant prosecutor at the Passaic county Prosecutor's Office, where she met her husband Steve Brizek in 1984. She has enjoyed traveling with him over the years to England, Scotland, and France.

**Debra Ridgard:** Religious Studies

With a Masters degree, she is a freelance writer and lecturer.

## The Class of 1983

**Amy Boyer:** Art Therapy

Co-Owner and landscape designer for Landshapes, Inc.

**Carolyn Curtin:** Psychology

**Linda Deutz:** Art

Art director and graphic designer.

**Therese FitzMaurice:** Art     *Ursula Laurus 1993*

Attorney for Kleban & Samor company.

**Patricia Gast:** Biology and Art

A free-lance medical illustrator, she lives and works in Scarsdale. Some of her recent projects include artwork for book covers, slide presentations, and CD-Roms. Her church choir concert kept her from attending the Holiday celebration, but she attended the 2000 Academic Convocation.

**Patricia Kelley:** Art

**Eileen Mooney:** Classics

After graduation, she earned her Masters in Classics at Boston University and taught Latin and French at St. Anthony's High School in 1986, where she was also cheerleading coach. She has taught Classics at Miss Porter's School in 1992, became head of the language department in 1996, and is advisor to the school paper "Salmagundy." Active in her disciplinary associations, she has received two summer study grants, published articles and given papers on the teaching of classics and the education of young women. She edits the Women's Classical Caucus newsletter, which she redesigned and named "Cloelia." Married to classicist Carl Strange, she had daughter Emmy in 1998. In her "spare time" she teaches CCD in Farmington and volunteers in her parish. In April she gave a workshop at the CAAS conference in New Rochelle, and participated in a panel with '85 alumna Maria Marsilio and Dr. Raia that honored Dr. Barbara McManus for her contributions to the teaching of classics.

**Judith Toterhi:** Business

After graduation Judith entered banking, leaving the private sector in 1993 for government service. She went from the Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), working on sanction and embargo programs ("Not always a popular issue with the public but just one of many tools available to the USG to try to resolve conflicts diplomatically"). Four years later, she accepted a position with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, first in the Office of International Programs, working on domestic and international policy issues related to money laundering and other financial crimes; currently in the Office of Investigative Support, where as senior analyst she conducts research in support of various investigations related to financial crime ("I love what I do, and hope that in some small way, I'm helping to make communities safer for all"). She has a busy household of husband, Jim Klock, a Secret Service K-9 technician, son Tommy (5), daughter Samantha (4), and 3 dogs, one of which is Jim's partner, a bomb sniffer. Judith writes: "I enjoyed my copy of *Femmes d'Esprit*. It is nice to read about CNR and what my fellow graduates are doing. Certainly an impressive and high achieving group from what I've read. I firmly believe that the education I received at CNR provided me with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in the workplace."

**Dr. Jeanne Warzeski:** Classics

After receiving her degree from CNR, Jeanne attended Yale University, earning her Masters degree in Archaeology and her Ph.D. in History in 1999 from the University of Florida. A cultural resources management specialist with the Florida Park Service, she recently left both job and her home in Tallahassee, and, after receiving many job offers, accepted a position with the Columbus, Georgia ("1 hr. and 15 minutes from the Atlanta airport"), Museum as Curator of History.

**Visit the SAS Honors Program website:**

<http://www.cnr.edu/home/Honors>

## C L A S S

## The Class of 1984

**Michele Cuomo:** English

Assistant professor of Theatre Arts at the University of Mississippi.

**Elizabeth Lofink:** Psychology

Having earned her Masters degree, she is a psychologist for the Torrington Public Schools.

**Christina Mango:** Art

Having earned her Masters degree, she is an art therapist and unit director for the Fordham-Tremont CMHC.

**Geraldine Owen:** Business

Having earned her Masters in Business Administration, she is account consultant for "The New England."

**Mary Ryan:** Communication Arts

Freelance writer and journalist.

**Jonna Schaffer:** Art**Mary Elizabeth Tolhurst:** EnglishMary Elizabeth writes: "After a short but sweet fulltime career in journalism in New York, I settled down to what turned out to be my ultimate career and true vocation — motherhood." She and her husband Tobias Naegele have seven children between the ages of 12 and 1. Her interests are centered around the children: "Children's literature is a passion, and so is learning, and in turn teaching them, the richness of our Catholic faith." She writes a monthly column *Faith in the Family* for a newsletter. Other activities are her book group, gardening and in-line skating.

## The Class of 1985

**Elizabeth Arleo:** English

Attorney for Neiman-Marcus, Inc. &amp; Lerach.

**Deborah Giandana:** Business

Having earned her Masters degree, she works for J.P. Morgan &amp; Company Inc.

**Lourdes Manach:** French**Dr. Maria Marsilio:** ClassicsAfter graduation she received her Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, and is now a Classics Professor at St. Joseph's University. Her thesis was published in 2000 as *Farming and Poetry in Hesiod's "Works and Days."* She has published several articles and given papers at the American Philological Association and Classical Association of the Atlantic States meetings. This spring she met Dr. Raia at the Metropolitan Museum of Art with their Greek classes, to view the Greek and Roman Collections. In April she attended a classics conference in New Rochelle, participating in a panel with '83 alumna Eileen Mooney and Dr. Raia that honored Dr. Barbara McManus for her contributions to the teaching of classics. She is engaged to her college sweetheart, Patrick, to be married at the end of the year.**Donna VanAlst:** Communication Arts

Having earned her Masters in Business Administration, Donna

is currently a research associate at the Center for Social &amp; Community Development, a research center at Rutgers State University. She also does consulting on quality assurance issues in the social work field.

## The Class of 1987

**Andrea Capolupo:** Psychology

A long-term school psychologist at the Lincoln School in the Mount Vernon School District, Andrea earned her Masters degree in School Psychology at CNR in 1991. Her special focus is on autistic children, an interest which arose from her Honors work in "The Exceptional Child" with John Lukens on "The Etiology and Treatment for Self-injurious Behavior in Autistic Children." Having brought this program to Lincoln School, Andrea attends conferences and gives workshops on her work. She celebrated the Millennium in January by marrying Brian Conyngham, and is expecting their first child this year.

**Stephanie Carle:** Psychology

Tutor

**Laura Dooley:** Spanish

Having earned her Masters degree, she is a school social worker for the Hartford Board of Education Public Schools and the Quirk Middle School.

**Anne Meiman:** Art

Consultant at Clasp Homes Consulting.

**Andrea Sanderson:** Communication Arts**Dr. Diana Weaver:** Biology

A sub-specialty fellow in Pediatric Pulmonology at the Children's Medical Center-Brooklyn, where she is specializing in lung disease in children.

## The Class of 1988

**Julie Cyr:** Biology

Adjunct Professor at the University of Connecticut, Julie has her own website development and audio production company, Celtic Voyage Productions.

**April-Anne Gavin:** Communication Arts**Chrystia Hlushko:** Art

Having earned her Masters degree in education, she works at the Hoff-Barthelson Preschool.

**Patricia Maher:** English**Kimberly Richardson:** Psychology

Social Welfare examiner for Medicaid for the county of Rockland.

**Sheila Toner:** Communication Arts

Media producer at Visnet-GTE Service Corporation.

## The Class of 1989

**Tara Ambery:** English

Corporate trainer at Johnson &amp; Higgins of N.J., Inc.

## C L A S S

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Mary Elizabeth writes: "After a short but sweet fulltime career in journalism in New York, I settled down to what turned out to be my ultimate career and true vocation — motherhood." She and her husband Tobias Naegle have seven children between the ages of 12 and 1. Her interests are centered around the children: "Children's literature is a passion, and so is learning, and in turn teaching them, the richness of our Catholic faith." She writes a monthly column *Faith in the Family* for a newsletter. Other activities are her book group, gardening and in-line skating.

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**Patricia Maher:** English**Kimberly Richardson:** Psychology

Social Welfare examiner for Medicaid for the county of Rockland.

**Sheila Toner:** Communication Arts

Media producer at Visnet-GTE Service Corporation.

## The Class of 1989

**Tara Ambery:** English

Corporate trainer at Johnson &amp; Higgins of N.J., Inc.

**Victoria Burnham:** English

Having received her Masters degree in English from Columbia Teachers College, Tori taught English at New Rochelle High School for nine years. She married Michael Andrews, moved to Long Island, and opened a day care business. With Mary just 1 year old and John due in March, Tori says that for now she's "in the baby business." Her legacy to the Honors Program is *Femmes*, the Honors newsletter which she named and jump-started.

**Michelle Capozzi:** Art Therapy

Coordinator and administrator for the Phelps-Clifton Springs Head Start Program.

**Maureen Fay:** Business

Consultant for Hewitt Associates, Maureen travels a great deal and keeps long business hours.

**Dr. Marjorie Hagerty:** Psychology

After graduation she entered the Ph.D. program in Clinical Psychology at St. John's University, receiving her degree in 1998. In 1999 she accepted a position at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, where she is an Associate Professor in the Department of Behavioral Sciences & Leadership. She lives with her husband, Scott Carroll, in Peekskill, N.Y.

**Deborah Lenares:** Chemistry

In October 1998, she married Stuart Smith of New Orleans, where she has lived for the past eight years. In May 1998, she received her Masters degree in Library and Information Sciences from the University of New Orleans and works there as their electronic and resource librarian.

**Jane McKeon:** Political Science *Ursula Laurus 1999*

Currently a homemaker, Jane is involved in her community and with her daughter Colleen's education. She and her husband, Sean Dalton, were notified that their application for adoption has been approved. They await the arrival in June or July of their 4 month old Korean son, Jin Woo, whose name means "happy treasure"; he will be officially named Patrick Austin Jin Woo Dalton. Jane's article on being a "stay at home mom" in our first *AlumFemmes* resonated with some readers, prompting them to write in gratitude.

**Eileen Sutton:** Business

Eileen worked after graduation for seven years in banking; she married James Malin in 1994 and is now a full-time mother of three children, ages 4-1. Eileen writes: "They are the joy of my life and also the most demanding job I have ever encountered." Building on her banking experience, she works two evenings a week as a computer software instructor with the Nassau Boces Adult Education Program. She writes: "I find teaching to be an extremely rewarding experience (as you well know) because I feel that I have touched and perhaps changed people's lives on some level."

**Lisa Vesperman:** Political Science

Graduating from Loyola University School of Law in 1993, Lisa became an attorney, opening her own practice in 1999 in Chatham, Mass., where she lives with her husband, Dennis Still, and their first child, Ethan Raymond, born in December 2000. Her practice concentrates on real estate law, consumer protec-

tion and zoning work, with "a little bit of everything"-corporate, estate planning, and some *pro bono* work for a local non-profit housing and economic development corporation.

**Robin Zaleski:** Communication Arts

Contract administrator for the Iroquois Gas Transmission System.

## The Class of 1990

**Regina Ambery:** Chemistry

An attorney in patent law part-time for Hopgood Calimafde Kalil *et al*, she and her husband Scott Beechert welcomed their first child, Kaitlin, in July 2000.

**Vincenza Campisano:** Psychology

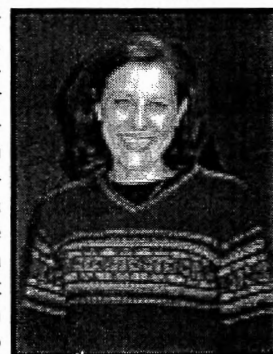
Having earned an MS in Clinical Psychology and an MA in Experimental Psych, Vicki pursues a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at the Pacific Graduate School of Psychology, with a specialization in Child and Adolescent Clinical Psychology. Her research includes the influence of childhood attachment on spousal bereavement, multicultural issues, and early childhood development. She lives in California with her husband and daughter, Talia, visiting the campus when she comes to New York.

**Elizabeth Connolly:** Political Science

Recruiting Manager for Thompson & Mitchell.

**Edwardyne Cowan:** Political Science and Mathematics

Until recently Edwardyne volunteered at the Brooklyn Aquarium, working with the dolphins and giving visitor presentations. Last year she had a singing lead in York Theatre Company's production "Fermat's Last Tango," which professors McMahon, MacNeil, and Raia had the pleasure of attending (the show was videotaped through a grant from the Clay Institute at Harvard). She is on the road now in "Ragtime." Edwardyne is married to Timothy Bennett and lives in New York City.



Edwardyne starring in "Fermat's Last Tango" last year.

**Linda Massucco:** Business

After graduation she worked as an assistant sales trader at Smith Barney Shearson. Now she is an investment associate at UBS Warburg, in the High Net Worth Group, where she works long hours. In 1995 she married Bryan Stephens, with whom she has enjoyed traveling to Germany, London, Paris, Tahiti and the Caribbean. She loves to weight train and hopes to enter a Fitness America competition.

**Meghan Mastellon:** Political Science

After graduation she entered law school, passed the Bar in Pennsylvania, and began working in the world of investment advisors and mutual funds. In 1999 she left Delaware Management Company to join Pilgrim Baxter & Associates, Ltd., as in-house counsel. Having moved in the fall, she, husband Jim Mahon, and daughter, Caitlin, welcomed their new baby, Brianna, on March 19.

**Rubaba Mirza:** Business  
Psychotherapist at Pathways Transition.

**Dr. Kathleen Reilly: Biology**  
Attending Physician and Surgeon at St. Clare's Hospital & Health Center in NYC, she specializes in foot and ankle surgery (see <<http://www.footandankle2000.com>> for a description of her practice, publications, lectures, and foot and ankle care). She and husband James Fallon welcomed their first child, James Edward Fallon (10 lbs. 8.4 oz) on May 11.

**Jennifer Steinfeldt:** English  
Homemaker and works at Technoserve.

**Dr. Emily Stocum:** Biology  
Having received her Ph.D., she is a group project director at Logical Communications, Inc.

**Elaine Tolley:** Mathematics  
Works for Childcare for Farm Workers in Starcross Community.

## The Class of 1992

**Lorraine Grose: Art Therapy**  
Lives in Pennsylvania with her husband, Ted Daddario, and their three children. She works for Spencer Zahn & Assocs.

**Wanda Ivancich:** Business  
Smith Barney Westchester Financial Center.

**Mary Kirkpatrick:** Psychology  
A certified social worker, she worked at the All Women's Medical Pavilion, the NYC Board of Education, and works now mainly in the Bronx as a psychiatric social worker at the Jewish Association for Services for the Aged (JASA). In 1999, she received her Masters in Social Work from Hunter College School of Social Work.

**Veronica Krasovic:** Chemistry  
A graduate student at the University of Wisconsin, Roni married in August, 1998.

**Amy Larrabee:** Art Therapy/Gerontology  
Having earned her MS degree at CNR, she is Director of Activities at the Waterview Hills Nursing Center. She, husband Michael Conroy, and son Liam welcomed their new baby Brody in October 2000.

**Crystal Renner:** Communication Arts  
Vice President in Rating Communications for Moody's Investors  
Service, she attended the 1999 Honors 25th Anniversary Holi-  
day Celebration.

**Lisa Waldron:** English  
A special education teacher at the elementary level in the Fort Edward School, Lisa previously taught in the Indian Lake and Newcomb schools. She earned her Masters degree in 1997 from Vermont College of Norwich University, writing her thesis on gender bias in the classroom. In January she will begin school administration coursework. Married to Eddie Meade, she has a son, and moved into her first house in 2000. She writes: "Choosing CNR was one of the best decisions I have ever made."

**Jennifer Warner:** Political Science


With a Masters degree from CNR in English as a Second Language, Jennifer is a teacher and consultant at Rockland County BOCES.

**Eshani Wijesekera:** Economics  
Received her Masters degree from American University, she married Nalin Liyanamana and is living in Maryland.

## The Class of 1993

**Michele Accardo:** Psychology

Since she graduated, Michele has worked in various capacities with adults with severe and persistent mental illness and their families in a community mental health center, St. Vincent's Catholic Medical Centers of New York in Staten Island. As Respite Care Coordinator at the Center for Behavioral Health, she coordinates a relief program for caregivers, working with families and training and supervising staff. In January 1999 she earned a Masters degree in Psychology at NYU. In 1999, she married Joseph Sofo and moved to Chatham, NJ. In May she expects to have her Masters of Social Work from the NYU School of Social Work.



Michele at Alum College '98.



Michele at Alum College'98.

**Allison Cunningham:** English  
Graphic Designer at <[www.ebusinessdesign.com](http://www.ebusinessdesign.com)>.

**Laura Hudson:** English Bookseller for The Bookloft.

**Jeanne Humphries: Psychology**  
A member of the Ursuline Order, she received her MS in Education and is an elementary teacher at St. Philip Neri School.

**Christine Kozlowski: Art Therapy**  
She attended Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary, taking courses toward an MDIV degree and working as an art therapist at Vencor Chicago North Hospital. She married and designed the cover for her husband's first publication.

**Kathleen McGarry: Psychology**

**Karen Parks:** Communication Arts  
In her 7 years in the Programming department at BBC World-wide Americas, Karen progressed from Administrative Assistant to Senior Manager (just promoted!), working with the Discovery joint-venture channels in the US, Canada and Latin America, including Animal Planet, People and Arts, and BBC America. She continues her association with FATE productions, the alumnae theatre group of CNR. She continues to enjoy Pelham life and travel.

**Dr. Sonja Ramirez:** Psychology  
Until last year a full-time psychologist working for the prison system in New York City and a highly regarded adjunct in the CNR Psychology department, Sonja moved to Chicago and was promoted by the Federal Bureau of Prisons to Drug Abuse Program

Coordinator and Clinical Psychologist in the Metropolitan Correctional Center-Chicago ("In addition, I was selected as the Federal Women's Program Manager"). Having published an article in 1997 ("Cultural Attunement and Personality Assessment," *Journal of Social Distress and the Homeless* 6.2), she published another in 2001 in *Psychological Reports* vol.88, pp.189-200 ("I had another CNR alumna work on the article to gain experience in the field since she is interested in pursuing a Ph.D. in clinical psych"). On April 21 she married David G. Nahass, MA, a former CNR School of New Resources English Department adjunct professor, in a Ukrainian-Syrian ceremony at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Passaic, NJ. She writes from Chicago: "I loved the Alum newsletter. It was fun and informative. I found myself reminiscing about the time I spent at CNR living, learning, connecting, and growing. I'm proud of the years I spent as a student of psychology and philosophy, and I'm proud of my year as a CNR adjunct professor. It just goes to show that life has a way of coming full circle. Who knew that I'd return to the Chidwick building to teach a course in the same exact classroom that I attended a Philosophy of Education course? I realized then that I wanted to teach and share and it came to life in that very same place. It was an intense and amazing moment in my career."

**Elizabeth Shelley:** Psychology  
Social Welfare Examiner for Medicaid, Rockland County Department of Social Services.

**Terry-Dawn Thomas:** Political Science  
Attorney

**Vanessa Vazquez:** Business  
Customer Service Representative at Fixture Hardware.

**Katrina Williams:** Communication Arts  
Director of Safety/Security at The College of New Rochelle since July 1999, Katrina lives in New Rochelle with her husband, Dan Benge, whom she married in 1997, one dog and one cat. She has recently enrolled in graduate school at John Jay College to study Protection Management. She has attended a number of workshops and classes at other institutions, including NYU and Bates College.

## The Class of 1994

**Amber Branciforte:** Political Science  
Attorney

**Annamarie Conte:** Communication Arts  
Having received her Masters degree in education, she is a teacher.

**Danielle Devine:** Business  
After college, Danielle went to work for Rhinebeck Savings Bank, where she interned as an undergraduate. She earned her Masters degree at Manhattan College in Business Administration in 1997, with concentrations in management and finance. In 1999 she moved to BSB Bank & Trust in Binghamton, NY, where she was promoted to Treasury Officer, and married Lee Markiewicz.

**Kimberly Giovannielli:** Biology  
While working at CNR as the Biology Lab Manager and adjunct faculty member in the Biology department, Kim is earning a Masters degree in Zoology from North Dakota State University; her

thesis project is "to determine if benthic macroinvertebrates were useful in assessing water quality conditions in North Dakota lakes." Married in 1997 to Brian Walsh, she had her first child, daughter Katherine Marie, in 2000. She attended Academic Convocation in cap and gown.

**Susan Grady:** Political Science  
After graduation, she worked as a development associate at The Alan Guttmacher Institute. In 1997 she completed a certificate program at The New School for fund-raising. Since 1998 she has worked as account manager at May Development Services, a direct mail fund-raising corporation for non-profit clients, a subsidiary of Direct Media, Inc. She recommends her company highly to Honors students, alerting seniors and young alum to entry level list brokerage positions in both May and Direct Media.

**Shannon Lalli:** Political Science  
After graduation she worked as a paralegal for Risk Enterprise Management. In 1999 Shannon applied for and obtained a position as a first grade teacher and got married. At present she is earning her Masters in Education at CUNY Hunter.

**Allison MacNeil:** Psychology and History  
After graduation, Allison moved to Atlanta, where she worked at Georgia State University and took evening classes. In 1998 she married Sean Porter. At present she works at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the National Center for Environmental Health, Division of Child Development, Disability, and Health Developmental Disabilities Branch, taking graduate classes toward a Masters in Public Health at Emory University at night.

**Wahida Mostafa-Tithi:** Biology  
Graduate Student at Boston College.

**Angela Pagano:** Biology  
Graduate Student at SUNY Binghamton.

**Susan Paprota:** Communication Arts  
Sales Consultant at Saturn.

**Heather Parker:** History  
Since leaving college, Heather has traveled in the US and held a variety of jobs. She now works in the Office of the Dean of the College at Brown University and lives in Providence. She is taking a summer class at Brown, and plans to apply to the American Civilization department in the fall for a Masters degree. She is interested in the research area of attitudes towards sex /sex roles in the US in the last century--"a very broad topic that will absolutely need some more focus and definition." Heather was on campus for her 5 year Alum College reunion and again for the 1999 Honors 25th Anniversary Holiday Celebration.



Heather at the 25th Anniversary International Holiday Celebration in December 1999.

**Tami Radabaugh:** Communication Arts  
A TV News Producer for NY1 News, Tami visited CNR in 1999 to

speak to Communication Arts and business majors.

**Stephanie Singleton:** Business  
Partner at Patrick Cassidy & Associates.

#### The Class of 1995

**Laura Brose:** International Studies  
Seeking admission to graduate school.

**Maria Cabral:** English  
Having received her MS in Education from CNR, she teaches at Isaac Young Middle School.

**Dr. Fiona D'Souza:** Biology  
She received her Ph.D. degree from Tulane University and moved to Pittsburgh, PA, where she is doing research.

**Dr. Hanbo Hu:** Chemistry  
Currently a scientist at DuPont Pharmaceuticals in Delaware, Hanbo is pleased with her position and the company. She regretted being out of town for 1999 Anniversary Holiday Celebration, but caught up at Alum College 2000.

**Adrienne Jones:** Art Education  
Financial Aid Counselor at The College of New Rochelle.

**Susan Pizzuti:** Business  
Having received her MS in Elementary and Special Education, Susan now teaches in Mount Saint Mary School in Newburgh.

**Vita Riley:** Biology  
Sixth Grade Teacher in the Orange County Public Schools.

**Kristen Stutzman:** Communication Arts  
Recently married, Kristen has moved to California.

**Susan Warde:** Communication Arts  
Having interned at Buena Vista Corporation as an undergraduate, Sue accepted a position there after graduation and is now senior publicist with the Walt Disney Company. She has offered Honors students free film previews. She spoke at Honors Senior Dinner. She shares an apartment with Sue Grady in Pelham, not far from Honors alum Karen Parks and Jenny Nault.

**Shyrielane Watson:** Psychology  
Candidate for the Ph.D. in Psychology.

#### The Class of 1997

**Alessandra De La Vega:** Art History  
A regular traveler to her family's home in Spain, Alessandra decided to pursue a BS in secondary education at Western Connecticut State University in order to be able to teach her native Spanish. She contributed her design and writing talents as an editor of *Femmes d'Esprit*.

**Shirley Franco:** Psychology

**Brenda Kibler:** Biology  
In May she received her Masters degree in Curriculum Theory and Development, as well as teacher certification in biology at the University of Maryland, College Park. Her husband since

1999, Christopher Aversano, earned his MBA from American University in May also. In October she joined Drs. Kraman and Raia, and students Katie Donovan, '01, and Devon Williams, '02, at the National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. In March she spent ten days in Italy ("I saw the Pope in Rome!"), accompanying her husband on a business trip.



Brenda in October 2000.

**Bindhu Lukose:** Biology  
Graduate student at New York Medical College.

**Evangelina Romero:** Political Science  
After college she worked for a year, then applied to law school. Accepted by her first choice, Catholic University Law School, she will receive her Juris Doctor degree on May 26 of this year. Enthusiastic, articulate, hard-working supporter of the Honors Program, Evangelina continues her advocacy of liberal arts education at a small college for women through words and achievement. She visited campus for Strawfest.

**Tamara Rose:** English  
Currently a freelance stage manager for many theater runs in New York City, she has recently been accepted into the Actor's Equity. Every summer Tammy is one of the lead stage managers for the New York City "Fringe Festival." Her most recent play was *Oedipus Rex*, with Diane Weist and Al Pacino.

**Shiba Russell:** Communication Arts  
With her Masters degree in journalism from Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University, Shiba became an anchor/reporter for News 12 The Bronx in April, 1999, moving from Neighborhood News 12 on Long Island. Shiba is the Editor of *Femmes* who won CNR its first First Prize in the National Collegiate Honors Council's 1996 Newsletter Contest. In Fall 1999 she spoke at CNR's Open House to an enthusiastic crowd of potential freshmen who recognized her from TV news. She attended the 1999 Honors 25th Anniversary Holiday Celebration with Richard McCalla, whom she married in 2000.

#### The Class of 1998

**Kelley Allen:** Classics and English  
Currently completing her Masters Program (MS) in Publishing at Pace University, she is working toward certification in e-commerce software engineering (CTA) at Columbia University. Kelly is the Editorial Director for Warren Adler, author of several best-sellers (*The War of the Roses*, *Random Hearts*), editing all of his books into e-book format. Since graduation, Kelley has traveled widely by air and on foot, paying visits to CNR regularly to spend time with student and staff friends. This summer she plans to travel to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, for a work project and then vacation in Iceland, England, and Wales with boyfriend Roy Davies. She has contributed an article in this issue.

**Maria Cochrane:** French

**Lisa Dziegielewski:** Biology  
She is currently completing her Master of Forensic Science at

George Washington University in Virginia.

**Rebecca Eller:** English

After graduation she worked for "48 Hours" as a researcher, then moved to Jupiter, Florida, to take a job as a magazine editor. Deciding to return to TV, she became a producer at an NBC affiliate in Florida. Rebecca is now back in the Northeast, having accepted a position as producer at WFSB Channel 3 in Hartford, Connecticut. Another notable editor of *Femmes*, Rebecca expresses her gratitude for Shiba Russell's undergraduate mentorship.

**Christina Hamilton:** Political Science  
Law Clerk at Rosenman & Colin.

**Heidi Muhleman:** Business

Until this year, Heidi was a marketing representative for WSPK-K104.7 FM, the station in Beacon in which she interned in her sophomore year. Deciding that sales was not for her but that management was, she is applying to Columbia Business School and Fordham Graduate School of Business Administration for admission in the fall. She attended the 1999 Honors 25th Anniversary Holiday Celebration and visited campus early this year.

**Bushra Rehman:** English

Freelance writer of prose and poetry, she has been invited to campus to read her work and speak, which she has done in other venues as well. She gave a reading in Spring '99 for the 25th Anniversary "Myths" lecture, paired with Dr. Vasu Varadhan's talk "Women of the Diaspora." She currently tutors writing at CNR's Learning Support Services.

**Sandra Schaithman:** Classics

Administrative specialist in Authorizations and Risk Management for MBNA Information Services, Sandy lives near Dallas, Texas, with her 3 year old daughter, Angela, and visits New Rochelle whenever possible. She was active as an undergraduate in NCHC and in many aspects of Honor Program life, writing articles and serving on a number of important committees.

## The Class of 1999

**Janet Aquilio:** Psychology

She is working as a residential instructor at the Boston Higashi School, a program for autistic children. It is an international program whose mother school is in Japan.

**Alicia Concepcion:** Psychology

**Maria Coviello:** Psychology

She works at a school under the Americorps Program, implementing a drug and alcohol awareness taskforce, and sets up groups for counseling in areas such as anger management and grief counseling. Conversations with Maria persuaded Honors alum Monika Wargo '00 to sign up for Americorps.

**Jennifer DeLemus:** Biology and Chemistry

Upon early graduation, Jennifer was hired as an assistant scientist in the department of Analytical Research & Development at Pfizer Pharmaceuticals. Always active in the Program, she wrote an open letter, full of good advice, to the Honors Seniors for the Class of 2000 Handbook.

**Joy Hohnstine:** English

Since graduation she has worked as an assistant teacher for special needs children at a private school in Westchester, The ClearView School. She was recently accepted into the Masters in English Program with a Teaching Assistant position. At the moment she is making arrangements for her move to the University of Alaska in Fairbanks, taking a leisurely summer route through the south to visit family in Florida, and then west and north to see friends. She expects to arrive for training in Alaska at the end of August.

**Marie Lagana:** Art

Art teacher on the elementary school level.

**Amy Sinclair:** Art Therapy and Psychology

**Jenna Sunderland:** Communication Arts and Women's Studies  
A Victims Assistance Coordinator in the Strafford County Attorney's Office for the Domestic Violence Project in New Hampshire, Jenna writes that she keeps her Honors diploma on her desk at work. She helps victims of domestic violence, advising them on the legal process, prepping them for trial, and acting as a liaison between them and the prosecutor. She spends three-four days a week in court for hearings, arraignments, and trials, finding the legal process very frustrating at times, but enjoying her job and the people she works with. Jenna was a student in the CNR-NCHC sponsored 1996 New York City Honors Semester. About to be married in July and begin law school in the fall, you may read about her "Transitions" in this issue.

**Roberta Thomas:** Communication Arts

Third grade teacher in the Bronx.

**Chia Lin Wu:** History

Amy is currently volunteering at a small Catholic school on the Turtle Mountain Reservation in North Dakota. She writes: "The Metif Indians have a mixed French and Chippewa heritage: 90% of them are baptized Catholics, but only 10% practice the religion. I have come to understand that even though the Metifs face many social problems such as alcoholism, adultery, and gambling, they are also a very spiritual people." Amy was a student in the National Collegiate Honors Council's "Grand Canyon Honors Semester" in Fall 1999. After graduating in December 1999, she worked at CNR in Campus Ministry for a year.



Campus Minister Amy  
in Spring 2000.

**Speak out Honors Alumnae!!**

**Keep us updated on your news  
by checking out the Alumnae Directory on-line  
and e-mailing us, calling us  
or by writing to us.**

**We would love to hear from you!!**

**Denise Abatemarco:** Communication Arts

Denise is graduating with departmental awards in the Honors Program and the Honors Diploma. She is seeking a job in media for a year and will then apply to graduate school in media studies. She has made a special contribution to the Program this past year as co-editor of *Femmes d'Esprit*.



to the Program as co-chair of the "Myths We Live By" Committee, chair of the Activities Committee, and supportive Honors member.

**Christina Cortez:** Biology

Christina is graduating with departmental awards in the Honors Program. After graduation she will work for a year as a Physical Therapist's assistant at St. Mary's in White Plains and continue to work in that same capacity in a private clinic. She will apply to enter the NYU program in Physical



Therapy in Fall 2002. She has contributed to the Program for the past two years as co-chair of the "Myths We Live By" Committee.



**Amanda Cartagena:** Art Therapy

Amanda will graduate in December, and is currently a candidate for departmental awards in the Honors Program and the Honors Diploma. She will apply for admission in Fall 2002 to a graduate school in the New York area, working toward her

future career as art therapist and practicing perhaps at Bellevue. She has made a special contribution to the Program this past year as co-editor of *Femmes*.

**Vera Chernysheva:** English and Communication Arts

A transfer student from California who was recommended to us by a CNR alum, Vera is currently a candidate for graduation in December with departmental Honors Program and the Honors Diploma. She intends to apply to a graduate school in New York City for admission in the fall of 2002 in the performing arts. Vera has contributed to the Program as Editor of *Tatler* and as a member of Props.



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**Sara Cross:** Psychology and Women's Studies

Sara will graduate in December, and is currently a candidate for departmental awards in the Honors Program and the Honors Diploma. Sara spent a semester studying abroad in England and has contributed to the Honors Program the past two years

as liaison to the Women's Studies Committee and writer for *Femmes d'Esprit*.

**Katherine Donovan:** Psychology

Katie is graduating with departmental awards in the Honors Program and the Honors Diploma. In the fall of 2002 she will be teaching at the 7th and 8th level at St. Angela School in the Bronx. She will complete her final project for the BA degree over the summer and enter CNR's graduate school for a Master's degree in School Psychology.



ogy, with the ultimate intent to become a School Psychologist. Katie has contributed to the Honors Program as Board Rep and Chair of the NCHC Committee.

**Mary Job:** English

Mary is graduating with departmental awards in the Honors Program and the Honors Diploma. She has accepted a position as 2001 Supervisor at CNR. She has had a number of job offers for the fall but decided. She to graduate eventually to computers, new media, and the past 4



summer position as 2001 Orientation CNR. She has of job offers remains un- intends to go school and work with web design, the Internet. In years, Mary

has made significant contributions to every area of the Honors Program, from Honors work-study student, to Chair of the 25th Anniversary Year Committee, Editor of *Femmes d'Esprit*, and Webmaster of the Honors Program website. For her dedication and service she was given the Program's first Distinguished Leader Award in April 2001 (see <http://www.cnr.edu/home/Honors>).

**Marcela Kacmarova:** International Studies

Marcela will graduate in December, and is currently a candidate for departmental awards in the Honors Program and the Honors Diploma. This year she served as Senior Honors Board representative.



**Angela Manning:** Biology

Angela is graduating with departmental awards in the Honors Program and the Honors Diploma. In August she will enter dental school at NYU, with the intention of opening her own practice in pedi-

atric dentistry. She has contributed to the Program for the past two years as co-chair of the "Myths We Live By" Committee, and served this year as Senior Honors Board representative



**Lisa Mecca:** Political Science



Lisa is graduating with departmental awards in the Honors Program and the Honors Diploma. She will work this summer at the CNR library as she looks for a job. After a year she wants to attend graduate school and work in state government, serving as an advocate in the public sector. This past year she was chair of the

Elections Committee and Archivist for the Student History Book.

**Rebecca Teetsel:**

Biology

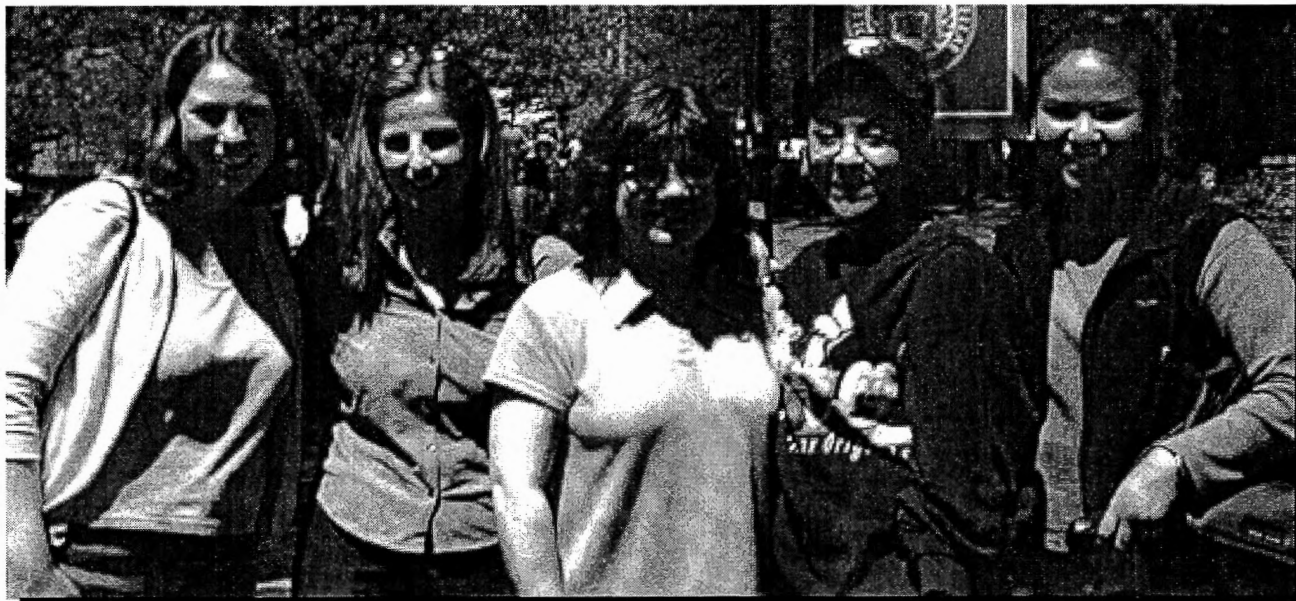
Rebecca is graduating with departmental awards in the Honors Program and the Honors Diploma. She has applied to medical school but will probably work for a year, retake the Medcat's and make additional



applications during the year. Rebecca has been an Honors work-study student, served as Honors Board representative, made contributions to the Honors Handbook and Curriculum Revision Committees, written for *Femmes*, and coordinated Honors Conference Day 2001.

# STRAWFEST 2001

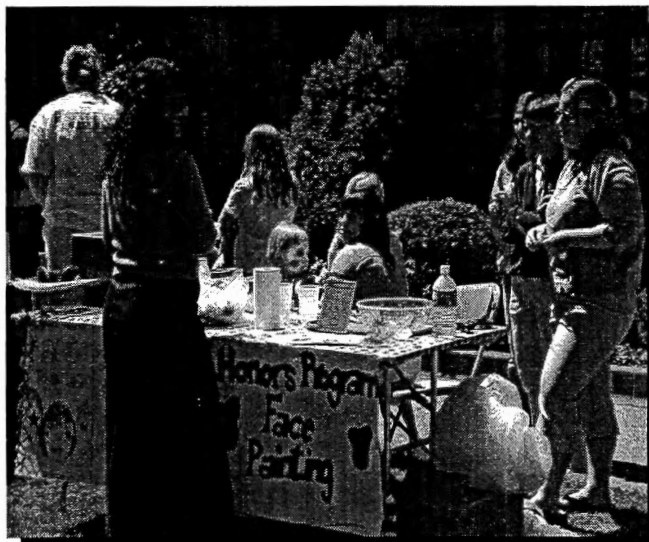
On a warm and sunny Sunday morning this May, The College of New Rochelle celebrated its Annual Strawberry Festival -- for the 29th consecutive year!



Class 2000 reunion at the Strawberry Festival:  
Dawn Phillips, Kelly Larkin, Jennifer Horbal, Daynara Hudson, Gloria Romero.



Front Row:  
Heather Wilson ('04) and  
Erin Churchill ('03) link  
in the Daisy Chain.



Honors students at work: Estela Garcia ('01), Devon  
Williams ('03), and Richelle Fiore ('04).



CNR President  
Stephen J. Sweeny and wife  
enjoy the Daisy Chain.

## The Maze

W.H. Auden

C  
N  
R

Anthropos apteros for days  
Walked whistling round and round the maze.  
Relying happily upon  
His temperament for getting on.

'Such reasoning is only true  
If we accept the classic view,  
Which we have not right to assert  
According to the introvert.

The hundredth time he sighted, though.  
A bush he left an hour ago,  
He halted where four alleys crossed  
And recognised that he was lost.

'His absolute presupposition  
Is: Man creates his own condition.  
This maze was not divinely built  
But is secreted by my guilt.

'Where am I? Metaphysics say  
No question can be asked unless  
It has an answer, so I can  
Assume this maze has got a plan.

'The centre that I cannot find  
Is known to my unconscious mind;  
I have no reason to despair  
Because I am already there.

'If theologians are correct,  
A Plan implies an Architect:  
A God-built maze would be, I'm sure,  
The Universe in Miniature.

'My problem is how not to will;  
They move most quickly who stand still:  
I'm only lost until I see  
I'm lost because I want to be.

'Are data from the world of sense,  
In that case, valid evidence?  
What, in the universe I know,  
Can give directions how to go?

'If this should fail, perhaps I should,  
As certain educators would,  
Content myself with this conclusion:  
In theory there is not solution.

'All Mathematics would suggest  
A steady straight line as the best,  
But left and right alternately  
Is consonant with History.

'All statements about what I feel,  
Like I-am-lost, are quite unreal:  
My knowledge ends where it began;  
A hedge is taller than a man.'

'Aesthetics, though, believes all Art  
Intends to gratify the heart:  
Rejecting disciplines like these,  
Must I, then, go which way I please?

Anthropos apteros, perplexed  
To know which turning to take next,  
Looked up and wished he were a bird  
To whom such doubts must seem absurd.

Want to see the pictures found in this Issue and more?  
Then take a peek at our redesigned Honors Program webpage to view current updates  
on your classmates, as well as to see how the Honors Program continues to make an  
impact  
on the CNR, New Rochelle, national and global communities.

<http://www.cnr.edu/home/Honors>

the specific content of each course that I took, I do, however, often think about the many supportive teachers who served as wonderful mentors and positive role models. As an educator today, I am continually reminded of how important a nurturing teacher can be. I also know that some of the most important lessons students learn may not be those that are clearly defined in the school's curriculum guide.

As I searched for a teaching position in the U.S. after my years overseas, one of the things that drew me to The Dalton School was the fact that second grade social studies focused on an experiential approach to learning about New York City and its diversity. We could take full advantage of the museums, landmarks, and cultural offerings as the students explored the five boroughs. In addition to our many field trips, tours and projects, I used my personal experiences running and training for the New York City Marathon as a learning opportunity that enhanced my students' classroom studies. My Marathon experiences meshed beautifully with many academic areas. Students learned about the geography of the five boroughs by examining the Marathon course map and following the path of some of my long runs. Math skills and concepts were given a "real world" context as students used Base Ten Blocks and exchanged ones for tens as they calculated my weekly training mileage leading up to the race.

More important, however, were the intangible lessons that were

imparted as I trained and taught. Whenever I initially presented information about the Marathon to a new class, inevitably at least one student asked, "Do you think you'll win?" This was always the perfect opportunity for me to explain that I win simply by trying my best and not giving up as I strive to cross the finish line. Hopefully, these students will learn to value persistence and determination as they face their own challenges in second grade and throughout their lives. One year a student told me that he was getting very tired as he faced a hill in Central Park on his bike. He said that he thought of me running loops there and in that way was able to keep on going himself. Conversely, my students inspired me to remain motivated as I trained and ran. If I had a hard time getting up in the morning or faced a daunting long run, I would think about my class, knowing that one of the first things they would ask me at school was how many miles I had run. I would think about a child who stuck with a difficult assignment or wrote a beautiful poem, and I would feel buoyed and energized.

Each Marathon Sunday, many of the children came out to cheer me on as I proudly ran wearing a shirt they had signed. I can not think of anything more rewarding than encouraging and inspiring children to set high goals, work hard and never give up as they face their own "marathons" throughout their lives.

Incidentally, my experiences as a runner are also related to my education at CNR.

Until college, I had never thought of running as something I would do for pleasure. During Ms. LeVache's Physical Fitness course, she gave us a packet of information about starting a walking/running program. One day, she said that we could stay in the gym and do exercises or go outside and walk/run. Some friends and I chose the latter option, and I soon found myself following the walking/running guide and truly enjoying the positive benefits of regular exercise. I had no idea at the time that I would ever be a marathoner, or that my running experiences would later have such a positive impact on both my professional and personal life.

In the summer of 1999, I was asked to serve on a technology committee as part of a collaboration between Dalton and Cornell University. Selected teachers from different divisions of the school went to Cornell for a retreat in August. While there, I found out that a teacher from the high school was also training for the NYC Marathon. We went on early morning runs before our technology sessions, and continued to do long runs together on weekends when we returned to the City.

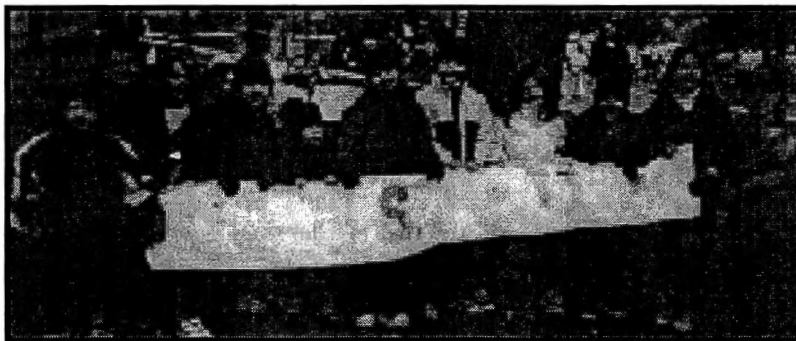
Although we do not run as often together anymore, that teacher and I will be married on June 23rd. The ceremony will take place at Marymount, my high school, across the street from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Another professor who had a huge impact on my life at CNR, Fr. Bernard McMahon, will be an integral part of the wedding.

Fr. Bernie was not only a revered English instructor, but the faculty advisor I worked very closely with in Props and Paint. I feel honored that he will perform my marriage ceremony next month. It is yet another example of how my CNR experiences continue to resonate with and influence my life today.

At The College of New Rochelle I realized just how much I loved learning. Through my teachers and mentors, I also came to realize that learning clearly does not stop when one leaves the classroom. It was obvious to me that the professors I encountered continued to learn and grow along with the students they guided and supported.

While teaching at Dalton, I have many professional development opportunities available to me. I am now pursuing a second Master's degree through the Math Leadership Program at Bank Street College of Education. After five years as a second grade teacher, next year I will be a math specialist at the school. This new position will enable me to focus on my passion for math education, as I work with teachers, parents and students in grades K-3. In my career as a teacher today, I hope that my enthusiasm for learning, so beautifully nurtured at CNR, is apparent to my students. I hope that they, too, continue to develop and grow as enthusiastic, life-long learners.



Teresa's 'little' big supporters.

contributed by Teresa Fall

Yet one year later the girls' behaviour--i.e., the nature of their relationships with older men--had not changed. They attended the classes and read the material but appeared to miss the point. Frustrated, we held focus group discussions with the girls, in which I personally participated. I will never forget the results.

To our amazement, they knew everything there was to know about the transmission of HIV and could recite chapter and verse from our prevention handbooks. Their failure to "act" on this knowledge was both simple and compelling: they pursued relationships with older men because it was the only way to cover their school fees. They were risking their health and lives to afford an education. Having carefully reviewed their alternatives, they chose the best one, all things considered. Their problem was lack of options, not lack of information. What they needed was practical support, not afternoon classes. Since then, I listen before I take action on behalf of others.

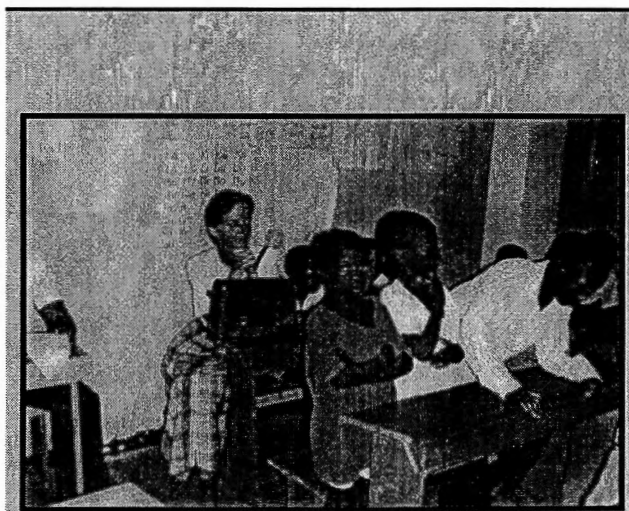
Burundi posed very different challenges. Three decades of violence and civil war made "development" impossible. As UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator my job, together with the staff of other UN agencies and a range of non-governmental organizations, was to keep 500,000 displaced people alive. This included regular distribution of food, blankets and other basic goods to sites throughout the country, requiring an endless series of decisions on what to distribute to whom. It also required nerves of steel.

On one occasion, we delivered truckloads of supplies to an area where two sites were located, providing makeshift shelters to 25,000 people. We were met by a group of heavily-armed soldiers who informed us that we could provide relief to only one of the sites; the other was harboring "rebels," and could not be trusted and deserved no support. The commander pointed to the trucks with his rifle and motioned for us to begin distribution. I responded calmly but firmly that what he asked was impossible; we were prepared to feed everyone or no one. He then pounded the ground with the butt of his gun, shouting for us to start. I stared back, motionless, repeating our position. His soldiers surrounded the trucks while my team stood in front of their doors. We waited what seemed an eternity before suddenly, without a word, the commander turned and walked away. A terrifying

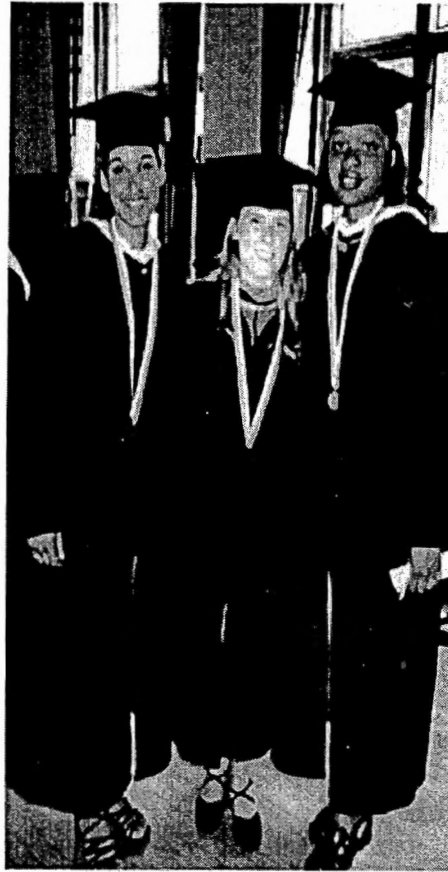
moment--which could have ended badly for everyone concerned. Just a year later a similarly tense situation left two colleagues murdered, traumatising the entire UN system.

The challenges of my present job as Deputy Executive Director of UNAIDS are more subtle, although in many ways just as real. The job of UNAIDS is to get seven UN agencies to work together to assist Governments in facing, individually and collectively, one of the most devastating epidemics in human history. Over 36 million people are living with HIV, 24 million in Africa alone. The year 2000 saw five million new infections, over half of them among people under 24 years old. HIV/AIDS is wiping out two decades of development in Africa and straining health and social systems to the breaking point worldwide. I feel privileged to be part of the effort to reverse this epidemic. The work of UNAIDS aims to ease the burden of those most affected by the virus. I hope that, despite the odds, we are having some effect.

Sometimes, when I regret living far away from family and friends or find myself in difficult places, I wish I had chosen another career. I long for a regular job, a permanent address, roots in a community or neighborhood. But other days I look back on where I have been, what I have done and the opportunities I have had to make a difference. It is then that I feel as confident as I did at the end of my second Honors project and know, without a shadow of a doubt, this is what I was meant to do.



Kathleen Cravero at work.

**ALUMNAE DIRECTORY****1976-1979****1980-1984****1985-1989****1990-1994****1995-1999****2000**

<http://www.cnr.edu/home/Honors>

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